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History of Kenmore

Eric County, New York

1926

E. Vernon Lewis

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Kenmore, New York.

January 19, 1931

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1926



Frederick S. Parkhurst, Ph. D.

Local Historian





Home of L. P. A. Eberhardt, Kenmore pioneer, at Delaware and West Hazeltine Avenues, now home of Y. W. C. A. Duplicate of this, built by F. B. Eberhardt, now occupied by Wheel Chair Home, at Delaware and Kenmore Avenues.

INTRODUCTION

The importance of recording events that take place in the world cannot be overestimated. Whether these events are of interest to the world at large, or to a particular country or community matters not. As time goes by such chronicles become increasingly valuable.

Although the United States is comparatively a new country, the veil of obscurity still covers many events that took place even less than a hundred years ago, because there was no local historian at hand to record them, or their passing character was considered insignificant. The biographical, historical, and geographical sections of our public libraries are being increasingly patronized as our nation grows older. Private libraries and correspondence often yield rich nuggets of fact; and no sooner does an octogenarian pass away, than newspapers, magazines, and historians bid high for the treasure of even a diary, if one has been kept, of passing events, or recollections of noted people. Thus local chronicles oftentimes become of world wide interest.

The placing of memorial tablets, markers, and monuments is no less important. "Remove not the ancient landmark", advised the wise man of old; but "Place a Marker" is equally wise advice in our own times, as the old gives place to the new. We stand with head uncovered at Lincoln's birthplace; yet who, at the time of his appearing would have forecast its later momentous interest to the world. A visitor from the far west stood enchanted as he read the inscription on the marker placed on the wall of a high business block at the corner of Pearl Street and W. Swan Street, which indicates the spot where stood the first school house in Buffalo, built in 1807—1808, and destroyed December 30th, 1813, at the burning of the village by the British. His grandfather attended the school.

Monuments erected to the memory of those who fell in the world war will a hundred years from now, fascinate the onlooker, as do those erected by our forefathers of Revolutionary times entrance us.

The village of Kenmore is of recent growth; yet it is astonishing how few persons now living can recall its earliest settle-

ment. We are dependent upon scrap books, the files of Buffalo newspapers, and the uncertain memory of a small number yet living who built their homes in "the new suburb on the north", as Kenmore was called by Buffalonians in 1889.

There was little or no pioneering connected with the founding of Kenmore in the strict sense of the word; although inconvenience and hardship were not wanting in many instances, while homes were being built and public utilities introduced. A large city was near at hand, and farm houses within sight relieving a sense of isolation. And yet, many things were endured and experienced that would seem like great deprivation to the younger generation, so rapid has been our growth and progress in modern advantages.

Kenmore is now assuming the proportions of a small city. Our population is increasing rapidly. Recent years have brought phenomenal changes. Very few new residents know anything about the early days in Kenmore, and those who have lived through the development of the village will be equally interested in the story of Buffalo's most beautiful and progressive suburb.

Fred'k S. Parkhurst, Ph. D.

Local Historian appointed by The University
of the State of New York, September 1st, 1919

VILLAGE OF KENMORE

VILLAGE OFFICERS—1926.

PRESIDENT—Roy R. Brockett.

TRUSTEE—Charles J. J. Seaman.

TRUSTEE—Herman C. Jordan.

TRUSTEE—Justin Trabert.

TRUSTEE—Willis H. Hall.

CLERK—Walter Ducker.

RECEIVER OF TAXES—Charles L. Lowell.

ATTORNEYS—Blackmon & Moore.

ENGINEER—Vernon Eager.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS—Henry Schunk.

VILLAGE GOVERNMENT

Kenmore is a village incorporated under the general village law of the state. Its law-making body is a board of trustees, consisting of a president elected for one year and four trustees elected for two years. Two trustees are chosen each year with the president. The annual election is the third Tuesday in March. The board is empowered to pass ordinances and enforce them, but its general powers are prescribed by the State law. It appoints police officers, superintendent of public works, clerk, attorney, engineer, building and plumbing inspector and other employes. It acts as a board of assessors and as a board of election inspectors.

Under a special act of the Legislature in 1917, the office of receiver of taxes and assessments was created, to take the place of the village treasurer. This officer collects all taxes and gas and water bills, and pays out moneys on warrant of the village board.

POLICE PROTECTION

Patrolmen on duty at all hours, covering all streets of village on motorcycles. Special officer stationed at school house crossing at Delaware and Knowlton avenues for protection of children. Police force comprises: Clarence E. Yochum, chief; Harry Brounshidle, Thomas DeGuehrey, desk lieutenants; Alfred Bleyle, Edward Schultz, Miner F. Wildey, Frank V. Schultz, Carlyle Johnston, Archibald Kirkwood, patrolmen; constables and special officers appointed by village board.

FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

Paid fire department, with three motor trucks and men on duty at all hours. Volunteer department, members of which respond to alarms. Siren blows and bell in fire hall rings in response to alarms sent in from street boxes. Officers of volunteer department for 1926: Chief, Fred Spear; first assistant chief, Ray Kirsch; second assistant chief, Bruce Miller; Walter Ducker, secretary-treasurer; wardens, Henry Schunk, Charles Weiss, Thomas Costello, Charles Michaels, Roscoe L. Rosser. Fire hall Delaware Avenue between Warren and Euclid.

POSTAL SERVICE

Two carrier deliveries a day from the Hertel Station, Buffalo. Two collections daily from street boxes. Sub-station for for sale of stamps, registering and recieving parcel post matter, 2809 Delaware avenue, Mary D. Connolly, agent.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Village board is the board of health, with a appointed registrar. Roscoe L. Rosser, registrar, Dr. E. R. Linklater, health officer, residence 2770 Delaware avenue.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

The public schools are a charge upon the school district, No. 1, which comprises all the village of Kenmore and part of the town of Tonawanda. The school board of five members is elected by the people of the district at the annual meeting. The taxes are levied annually upon the property in the district, based upon the assessed valuations as fixed by the town board of assessors. The board chooses its secretary and treasurer and it has full powers in the conduct of the schools, under supervision of the State Department of Education. The budget is submitted to the people at the annual meeting. Bond issues must be approved by the people.

The school board of District No. 1 comprises: Frank C. Greutker, president; Willis E. Elliott, Mrs. E. R. Linklater, William W. Whitelock and Frederick Whelpley. Kenneth O. Irvin is secretary-treasurer. Frank C. Densberger is superintendent of schools, Roy G. Freeman principal of the high school and C. M. Gould principal of Washington grammar school, Mrs. Tillie W. Hausauer, Lincoln Elementary School.

By order of the State commissioner of education, issued in

November, 1925, school districts Nos. 1, 3 and 4 were consolidated, effective August 1, 1926.

SCHOOL STATISTICS JUNE 1ST, 1926

Washington Elem. Echool

Teachers 30

Pupils 927

Lincoln Elem. School

Teachers 10

Pupils 251

Ellwood Elem. School

Teachers 1

Pupils 27

Junior-Senior High School

Teachers 35

Pupils 582

Total 1787

"The New Suburb on the North"

History of Kenmore

1889 - 1899

CHAPTER ONE

Settlement and Early History

SETTLEMENT

The Village of Kenmore, in the Town of Tonawanda, Erie County, N. Y., "the fastest growing residential community in the country", and "The center of the Niagara Frontier Industrial District", was first settled in the spring of 1889.

Louis P. A. Eberhardt, who is fondly called "Daddy Eberhardt", was the original pioneer and realtor. He built the first house during the winter of 1888-9 on the site now occupied by his real estate office No. 2749 Delaware Avenue; it was burned down in March 1894.

FIRST HOUSE

The next house built by Mr. Eberhardt was the brown stone house on Delaware Avenue now occupied, with the frame on W. Hazeltine Avenue by the Y. W. C. A. The other brown stone house at the corner of Delaware and Kenmore Avenues was built at the same time by Fred B. Eberhardt and is now occupied by the Wheel Chair Home. These durable and handsome twin structures have long stood as sentinels at the approach to our village from Buffalo, admired by all and prophetic of Kenmore's stability and future prosperity. The second house built in Kenmore was the residence of Myron A. Phelps, still standing on the original site at 2798 Delaware Avenue corner of Tremaine, now owned and occupied by Harrison H. Bury. Other houses were soon built, and the foresight and enterprise of the first settlers was readily admitted. In 1890 nearly three hundred people lived in the village. It requires some stretch of the imagination to visualize the awful roads, absence of sidewalks, lack of lighting, dearth of potable water, and other inconveniences in the newly settled village. The beautiful and busy thoroughfare which is now, next to Main Street, Buffalo, the main artery of traffic north and south was, at that time, an ordinary dirt road. All around Kenmore were fields of clay soil, none too fertile for farming, with a few scattered farm houses in the Township of Tonawanda in which the growing village is situated.



First home built in Kenmore, at Delaware and Tremaine Avenues, by Myron A. Phelps, first village president.

NAME

It was proposed calling the village "Eberhardt"; but firmly and modestly Mr. Eberhardt said, "No, they might nickname it 'Dutchtown'." But the real reason was Mr. Eberhardt's aversion to personal publicity and display. The Erie Railroad was building a station at this time in the north-east section of Buffalo near Main Street and had chosen the name "Kenmore", but the alert Mr. Eberhardt with an ear for euphony, appropriated the name for the fast growing community and the name "Kensington" was attached to the Erie Station. A sign bearing the name "KENMORE" was placed at the intersection of Delaware and Kenmore Avenues, where all who ran might read. There are several places called Kenmore in the United States, notably Kenmore in Fairfax County, Va., the home of Washington's sister, and a village in Ohio. Probably both these places, our own village, and other places so named, took their name from a small island on the south-west coast of Ireland; or from a village in Scotland, each of which bears the name of Kenmore.

EARLY SETTLERS

Among those who were first attracted to Kenmore as a desirable place of residence and the location for a village were Louis P. A. Eberhardt, Fred B. Eberhardt, Myron A. Phelps, A. B. Crary, O. K. Horning, A. W. Olmstead, A. B. Floyd, G. W. Peck, John A. Miller, F. W. Drake, L. L. Briggs, Ephraim Funk, Frank Stillwell, John J. Bernd, Virgil M. Hunter, Henry Tremaine, C. M. Aiken, Arthur Hall, Andrew Frank, Jabesh Harris, J. B. Zimmerman, and others. Among those living in the town of Tonawanda at the time Kenmore was founded, and not far from the Buffalo city line, were John Winter, Henry Winter, Jacob Busch, John Bleyle, Fred Bleyle, Fred Ebling, Isadore Keller, Frank Mang, Isadore Mang, and others.

TRANSPORTATION

Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, was paved as far north as Forest Avenue. From that point to Kenmore there was an ordinary country road which was badly drifted with snow in winter, and covered with alternate dust and mud in summer. The people who ride through the well paved streets of our village, or walk along our shady avenues little realize the problems of transportation in the village in 1889.

The Kenmore omnibus line started in December making regular trips between Belt Line station on Delaware Avenue

and Kenmore. Passengers were carried free of charge as an inducement to home-seekers, and fifty or more people made the trip daily. There was no shelter in inclement weather at the Buffalo end of the line. A petition signed by eighty men and women residents of Kenmore was sent to the Sup't of the N. Y. Central Railroad asking for a station, if nothing but an old box car.

THE WHITE HOUSE

The "White House" familiar to the early settlers in Kenmore was the Ackerman farm house situated on the north-east corner of Delaware and Kenmore Avenues on a seventy-four acre farm. Near the house was a fine well of water sixty feet deep. This was the "Village Pump"; and from it the residents secured plenty of clear, cold water. The "White House" was later removed giving place to a more modern dwelling. A part of it was moved so as to face East Hazeltine Avenue and was made over into a two family flat by William Rowland, and is still standing at 17 East Hazeltine Avenue. The "White House" served a beneficent purpose in its day. It was the only hostelry where transients could find a night's lodging, and those waiting for houses to be built could find accommodation. It was also used for the first social, and religious meetings in the new village.

STORES

The first store to supply the people of Kenmore with groceries and "Yankee Notions" was opened in the building now standing on the south-east corner of Kenmore Avenue (No. 1412-1420) and Toledo Place, on the Buffalo side of the line. It has been used for mercantile purposes as late as 1916, and is now a two family flat. The first drug store to meet the needs of Kenmore residents was commenced in April and opened for business in June 1894. The building still remains on the south-east corner of Delaware Avenue (No. 2660) and Sessions Street Buffalo, and is used as a store and residence. Dr. R. S. Hambleton was the proprietor. The first store within the present village limits was kept by John Johnson, and afterwards by F. B. Fulton, in 1897; and still later by D. A. Phelps. It is now occupied by H. H. Bury, Furniture and Undertaking, No. 2838 Delaware Avenue. Mr. Bury has the double distinction of living in the oldest house and trading in the oldest store in Kenmore.

"TOWN MEETINGS"

The first joint meetings of the Town Board of Tonawanda.

and the officials of the village were held in the rear of the old Presbyterian Church which stood on the site of the present new structure. On the south-east corner of Delaware and Hertel Avenues stood an old log house in which a Sunday School was conducted by the Westminster Presbyterian Church of Buffalo. Both children and "grown ups" attended religious services there before there were any churches in Kenmore.

POST OFFICE

As late as 1918 Kenmore was facetiously described as, "A place of 5000 population, without a Post Office, Railway Station, Hotel, or Express Office". Many a "Four Corners" of 300 people in the rural districts have these advantages, and although the proximity of Buffalo supplies all these needs, yet the name of "Kenmore" N. Y. does not appear in the U. S. Postal guide. That it is due our large and busy village none can deny. The conditions required by the proper authorities will soon be met however. Kenmore had a Post Office for a number of years. It was first established February 28th, 1891. L. P. A. Eberhardt received the appointment as Post Master. The salary was \$200 a year. Dreams of a Federal Building were dreamed in those by-gone days. All dreams do not come to pass; and many come true long years afterward. The vision may yet be fulfilled. Mr. Eberhardt's successors in office were as follows—

Wellington B. Tanner, May 25th, 1896

Francis B. Fulton, Jan. 17th, 1898

Aaron Lamont, July 30th, 1907

Henry Tremaine, July 26th, 1910

Stephen R. Williams, July 25th, 1913

Henry J. Ebling, (Acting) Nov. 23rd, 1917

Discontinuance effective, March 31st, 1918

After the latter date Kenmore's mail was delivered by carriers from Station H., Buffalo, and later from Hertel Station, Buffalo. Sub-station No. 12 is maintained for the sale of stamps, registration and parcel post at 2809 Delaware Avenue.

LAND VALUES

In striking contrast with the prevailing prices of real estate in 1924-1926 were those of 1888. In the latter year "West Bros. of Syracuse, N.Y. sold to Eberhardt and Sanborn through Phelps & Barnes, twenty-five acres on the west side of Delaware Avenue for \$300 an acre." Eight acres located 800 feet east of Delaware Avenue on Villa Avenue sold for

\$21,700. The Myron A. Phelps residence on the corner of Delaware and Tremaine Avenue cost \$4500. The Herbert A. Zimmerman house No. 2808 Delaware Avenue, cost about \$8000. The estimated cost of the Fred B. Eberhardt Medina sandstone residence erected in 1893 was \$15,000. Very desirable lots just off Delaware Avenue on any of the side streets could be bought for \$250.

GAS WELL

In 1890 the "Kenmore Oil, Natural Gas, and Fuel Company, Limited" was organized. Capitalization \$2500 to be increased if the venture was successful. A test well was drilled on the Park Land Company property on Kenmore Avenue near Myron Avenue. At a depth of 736 feet a rich vein of gas was struck at 500 lbs pressure. Such was the force of the escaping gas that it could be heard a mile or more away. The gas was piped to several dwellings for fuel. To properly finish the well as a producer it was "Shot" with Nitro-Glycerine. Many were of the opinion that it was "Overshot" as the flow thereafter greatly diminished. A. B. Crary, now living at No. 1337 Kenmore Avenue bought the lot on which the well was located for \$500. After all the years since this venture was made, the well is still producing gas which is used by Mr. Crary in his kitchen stove. The well may still be seen, covered by a small shanty, padlocked, in the rear of 1303 Kenmore Avenue and rear of Mr. William Dicks residence 10 Myron Avenue. The officers of the Company were M. A. Phelps, Pres; S. J. Dark, Vice Pres; W. F. Strasmere, Sec'y; L. P. A. Eberhardt, Treas. The geologists were right. While there can be no doubt that natural gas exists in Kenmore and Tonawanda, the quantity is not enough to pay for development.

THE OMNIBUS

During the fall of 1891 the first trip of the new omnibus was made to Buffalo, when about a dozen people went to a revival meeting at the Emanuel Baptist Church in Rhode Island Street. Building lots advanced \$2 and \$3 a front foot and the village took on a lively aspect. A. B. Crary broke ground for his new house on Kenmore Avenue, and O. K. Horning moved into his new house on the same street. A building boom was now on. Among the interesting events of the winter "Mr. L. P. A. Eberhardt gave a Euchre Party in honor of his brother Fred."

CHURCH BUILDING

The religious and social life of the village kept pace with

the building development. On September 22nd, 1892 the corner stone of the Methodist Episcopal Church was laid with interesting ceremonies. Ground was broken for the Jabesh Harris residence still standing at 2771 Delaware Avenue and occupied as the Kenmore Tea Room. Mr. Harris died soon after moving into his new home. The Rev. George Marsh one of Kenmore's earliest and most influential ministers delivered a temperance lecture illustrated with stereopticon views. Rev. Mr. Marsh was the pastor of the Presbyterian congregation. Mrs. A. Frank sold her house on Sanborn Avenue (now LaSalle Ave) to the Westminister Presbyterian Church of Buffalo, which stood sponsor for the local society, for a parsonage, and a box social was held for the benefit of the organ fund. A petition was circulated to pave Delaware Avenue with asphalt.

ELECTRIC RAILWAY

Prospects of an electric railway enlivened the village as carloads of material were unloaded at the Lackawanna switch on Delaware Avenue in the spring of 1893. The streets presented a lively appearance during the summer. More than a hundred workmen were engaged in laying the tracks of the Kenmore & Tonawanda Electric Railway through the village. The track was laid before Delaware Avenue was paved, at the rate of 500 feet a day. The route to Buffalo was by way of West Kenmore Avenue on the Kenmore side of the city line to Military Road, and Grant Street. The service was every twenty minutes. After the line was completed, Delaware Avenue was paved with vitrified brick through the village and town to city of Tonawanda. This outlet for traffic to and from Buffalo was a great promoter and speeded up the building of more houses.

A subscription was circulated to connect the village with Buffalo by telephone. A sewer was laid for a distance of one mile north of the Buffalo city line. The crying need at this time was for a water system. The Buffalo water mains in Delaware Avenue were completed to the City Line in September. The people of Kenmore said, "Why not extend a six inch main 1000 feet further north and give us service?" it was an easy thing to ask questions, but to obtain service from a separate municipality was a difficult matter.

TELEPHONE OFFICE

Telephones had been in common use for many years before Kenmore enjoyed the advantage. Enough subscribers were

secured however in 1894 and an office was opened for public use and came at once into general use by the business men. The village was now growing so rapidly that eight families lived in four houses waiting for new homes to be finished. Evidently the "Speed Mania" existed even at this seemingly distant day. Senator Coggeshall introduced a bill in the State Legislature limiting the speed of trolley cars to "six miles an hour". The Kenmore Business Men's Association held a special meeting and adopted strong resolutions opposing the measure. It was too slow for Kenmore.

THE FIRST FIRE

The burning of Kenmore's first house, that of L. P. A. Eberhardt in March 1894, and the lack of water to subdue the flames, brought up the subject of annexation to Buffalo. The sentiment was almost unanimously favorable, as reported by a canvassing committee to the Business Men's Association. The question of annexation to Buffalo has been a perennial dispute in Kenmore. Like the flowers, it blossoms every year. Some day the fact will no doubt surprise us, like the Night Blooming Cereus which expands in a few hours—but not to fade. In responding to the alarm the Buffalo Fire Dep't had to abandon their apparatus on account of sewer pits near the city line. By means of blankets, and water carried by a "bucket brigade" from a hydrant at the city line, the barn was saved, but the house was a total loss. Neighbors passed water into the attic of the house with pails and dishes, but were forced by smoke and flames to discontinue their efforts; however, most of the contents of the house were saved. The Buffalo Express commenting on the fire said, "The only real remedy for Kenmore is to come into the city and get an engine and hook and ladder of her own. There is a limit to fighting fire with soup tureens and platters."

SEWERAGE FIGHT

The Buffalo sewer from Hertel Avenue north to the city line was completed during the summer of 1894, and Kenmore had built a sewer to the Buffalo line, so that about twenty-five feet only separated the connection. But politicians were in the way and no contract for connections could be made. It was determined to brush this hindrance aside. About a hundred determined "Kenmorites" armed with pick and shovel, having cut the telephone line, attempted to make the connection during the midnight hours. But they were forestalled. "A man on

horseback", an enemy, a la Paul Revere, alarmed the Buffalo Police Dep't, and a wagon load of policemen descended upon the crowd who were trying to cut the Gordian Knot of Kenmore's sewerage question, and officially broke the connection. This lively skirmish however, had the desired effect and soon brought relief. A contract was made for sewage disposal through the Buffalo sewer in June 1895. The completion of the Hertel Avenue electric line during the year greatly facilitated access to Buffalo by way of Main Street. The outstanding event of the year was the completion of the asphalt pavement on Delaware Avenue from the Belt Line, Buffalo, to Kenmore, and was celebrated with a general jollification and fireworks in the evening.

THE SEWERAGE PROBLEM

Again the sewerage problem came up in 1895. In locating a village, water supply, sewerage, transportation, and fire protection are among the first essentials. The problem must be met and solved sooner or later, and to keep pace with house erection and street building should receive first attention regardless of taxation. The problem still remains as our village expands on account of the level area surrounding us. Happily this important matter is being solved by skilled engineers. This time the cry came from residents in the north part of the village. The Business Men's Association petitioned the Town Board of Tonawanda to establish a sewer district for the relief of the situation. The Kenmore sewers were connected with the Buffalo System in January, and a bill was drawn by Cuneen & Coatsworth under direction of the Town Board of Tonawanda for the north district and presented at Albany. A delegation of men and women from Kenmore paid a visit to the Buffalo City Clerk's office during the spring to face the aldermen with their troubles, just as they do now at the Kenmore village hall. No quorum being present City Engineer Fields had to face the music. Said one woman, "If you don't think we need relief, I wish you'd come out to Kenmore and pay us a visit. You can have the use of my cellar for a few hours, and I think that will be enough for you; you can realize in that time what we are suffering. If you can stay in any one of the cellars ten minutes we wont say another word." With storm sewers in the village and a system now being perfected in the township, which is rapidly becoming a part of "Greater Kenmore," these long suffered troubles will be a thing of the past.

BUILT A BARN

In these days when a garage is considered an essential part of a home, and public garages are so numerous, it seems strange to know that, in December, 1896, the Methodist Episcopal Church built a barn, in which to shelter the horses of the members during service who came from a distance. Ofttimes the sermon was so lengthy that whinneys from the restless steeds, and vicious kicks against the stalls resounded within the sanctuary, and brought the sexton out to quiet the disturbance.

The building of four houses at one time was spoken of as "great activity." Improvement in the business section of the village was noticeable during the year; yet it became necessary to inform the reading public through the press that Kenmore was separated from Buffalo on the north by a fifty foot street, and was not near the city of Tonawanda as many supposed. Houses for rent were scarce; it being the plan of the village leaders to make Kenmore a place of home owners.

MOONLIGHT VS GASLIGHT

For nearly ten years the people of Kenmore had rather a "spookey" time of it at night, depending on the moon for the illumination of the streets, and doing without it when the moon was "dark." One public spirited man maintained, at some personal expense, a kerosene lamp in front of his house, his neighbors occasionally contributing a new wick for encouragement. What an opportunity for some enterprising parson, to take for a timely topic in the pulpit, the text of Isaiah 60;19. "Neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee." Perhaps this was what happened; for at a special meeting called for the purpose in the Presbyterian Church there were two propositions submitted. First, to lay pipes and provide lamp posts and burners at a cost of \$5,000. Second, to bond the village for \$5,000 to provide the money. The fear that some hold-up man would happen to come Kenmore way and part people from their valuables some dark evening was dismissed as idle talk. Fiat Lux.

TRANSPORTATION

In 1898 transportation loomed prominently into view again. Regular trips between Kenmore and the N. Y. C. R'y. belt line were made by a bus driven by Frank C. Stillwell, in whose memory Stillwell Avenue is named. From sixty to seventy-five persons made the trip each day. A 6 x 6 flagman's shanty was the only accommodation provided for

passengers during stormy weather. Twenty-one persons were seen at one time waiting in the rain. The Business Men's Association took up the grievance with the Superintendent. The Buffalo and Lockport Railway Co., purchased a private right of way from the Kenmore village line through Virgil avenue, to Hertel avenue, and thus shortened and made more direct the trip to Buffalo; but they charged an extra fare over this short stretch of track. Many people walked to Hertel avenue, or the belt line in fair weather rather than pay this excess. Again the Kenmore Business Men's Association showed its merit by taking up the matter with the company, and presented the case before the Buffalo Aldermanic Council receiving plenty of applause. No other section of the city was discriminated against in this way. Why should "Kenmorites" pay an extra fare for riding a distance of three-quarters of a mile on Buffalo territory? Mr. Carl Ely, President of the Buffalo & Lockport electric line said that, the strip of track on Virgil Avenue was on private property (which is the case today) and if necessary to preserve their legal standing, they could stop running their cars at Hertel avenue instead of running them through to Main Street over the Buffalo Railway's tracks. The Lockport Company however, had no charter to run cars in the city. The threat was therefore idle talk. To cease to run only to Hertel Avenue, would be to surrender the right to operate at all. The five hundred people of a growing village had outgrown the stage coach and the belt line route and were insistent on fair play. By the end of the year Kenmore was smiling and jubilant. The Buffalo & Lockport Railway Company lost its case, and under the Buffalo Railway Company the extra fare was abolished.

Kenmore being just over the line from Buffalo, the village became somewhat of a rival for real estate deals and home finders as incorporation began to be discussed. The attitude of the big city was that Kenmore should "Blow its own horn," a privilege which it was not slow to accept. The first decade of her history was now about completed. Progress was assured. Modern houses all occupied were reaching out on the newly paved streets. A lighting system was to be installed. The boycott against the trolley road was called off. Everybody took a ride on one fare. "Boost Kenmore" was the slogan. Everybody was smiling. "Incorporation" was now the watchword. So closed the year 1898.

CHAPTER TWO

Social and Religious Life Before Incorporation

The early settlers in Kenmore were fully alive to the necessity of providing social, religious, literary, and musical requirements and diversions for the growing community. There were but few aged people among the inhabitants. The great majority were young married folks and children. Located five miles from the amusement places of Buffalo, and lack of transportation facilities, necessitated the development of home talent and a neighborly spirit. "Surprise parties" were of frequent occurrence. With well filled baskets of eatables the people invaded each other's homes with the slightest excuse, or none at all, simply to enjoy themselves, encourage sociability, and get acquainted. All were enthusiastic for the growth and well being of the village, it was the common topic of conversation. No more hospitable people ever lived than the people of Kenmore.

A "C. L. S. C."—Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle, and not "Come love sit closer," as it was called by the profane, was organized. Miss Kate Kimball secretary of the parent Chautauqua was present to assist with advice, experience, and inspiration of those at the world famous Chautauqua Institution near Jamestown, N. Y. Mr. George E. Vincent of the Rockefeller Foundation, son of the distinguished Bishop John H. Vincent, the founder of Chautauqua, lectured in the Methodist Episcopal Church during the winter of 1892 on "Rambles in Spain and Morocco." The Kenmore Cornet Band, and the Kenmore Orchestra were organized, the later composed of six pieces: two violins, cornet, clarinet, trombone, and piano. These musical organizations provided music for local functions and were in great demand in the surrounding community for dances and parties. Kenmore had a "Standing Army" known as Junior Cadets, commanded and drilled by Ralph Harris. During the winter of 1892 a branch of the Y. M. C. A. was formed. The officers were: President, F. Babbington; Vice Presidents, Rev. G. H. Marsh, Jabesh Harris, and L. P. A. Eberhardt; Secretary, M. A. Phelps; Corresponding secretary, A. W. Olmstead; Treasurer Ralph Harris. Rooms were opened in the "White House" and supplied with reading matter and games. A Ladies Auxiliary with Mrs.

Babbington, President; Mrs. A. W. Olmstead, Secretary, and Emily Eberhardt, Treasurer, rendered efficient aid, meetings being held in the Presbyterian Church.

A radical temperance sentiment prevailed in Kenmore from the beginning. A Council of Royal Templars was instituted in 1891 by the grand officers of the society. At the initial meeting twenty-two persons were initiated and formed Kenmore Council No. 248 R. T. of T. On the occasion of the first anniversary the membership was increased to seventy five and Cyrus K. Porter, the originator of the Order was present to confer the degree. A saloon located at the corner of Delaware Avenue and Kenmore Avenue, was bought out by the citizens and converted into a drug store and residence occupied by Dr. J. J. Drake. The building was later removed and now stands at No. 12 Warren Avenue. The noted Rev. Father George Zurcher of the Roman Catholic Church, well known throughout western New York in the 80's lectured in Kenmore. Many other eminent advocates of total abstinence, local option, and prohibition kept the temperance question alive, blazing the way as pioneers for the Volstead Act. Kenmore was known far and wide as a "Dry" town, and all efforts to open a saloon met with decided opposition. One of the provisions in the movement for annexation to Buffalo, which was so vigorously advocated in 1894 was the privilege of submitting the question of Local Option to a vote of the citizens of the village, it began a foregone conclusion that the vote would be "Dry." The action of Hyde Park, when it became a part of Chicago, was cited in evidence, on suit and appeal by a liquor dealer who was refused a license by the Supreme Court of Illinois.

An Athletic Association whose object was to better the vim, vigor, and vitality of Kenmore's young men and boys was formed in 1892 which proved to be very popular.

Kenmore has had from the beginning "An eye for business." A type of men schooled in old and tried methods of square dealing settled in the village. With a large and growing city across the line and reaching out toward the north the "course of empire" naturally took its way out Delaware Avenue and the foresight of the realtors in founding a village five miles from the city hall in Buffalo, looked upon with doubt by many, was more than justified within three years. Young men of ability and skill were soon attracted to the growing suburb. In July, 1893 the Kenmore Business Men's Associa-

tion was organized with the following officers: James B. Zimmerman, President; George H. Marsh, Vice President; Myron A. Phelps, Secretary; Albert B. Crary Treasurer. Among the first questions taken up was "Better care of the side streets, the extension of the Boulevard, a system of water works, and the organization of a Fire Department." Annexation to Buffalo was one of the leading question of discussion in 1894, nearly all the members favoring the plan. Joint meetings were held with the Town Board of Tonawanda occasionally, at which sewerage, water supply, fire protection, lighting, and all questions relating to the growth and welfare of the village were taken up and acted upon. It was a matter of vigilance, sacrifice, caution and hard work on the part of a few determined men, but they were cheered by the steady growth of the village. The question of annexation to Buffalo was discussed by the Buffalo newspapers at some length. "Wants to marry Buffalo and be in the municipal family," said one. "Kenmore should be a part of Buffalo. The result is inevitable," said another. Money, brains, and labor had been expended in beautifying Kenmore, but water, lighting, better transportation, sewerage, and other extensive improvements were needed and many thought that annexation would end the trouble. Kenmore's business men did not wish to antagonize their neighbors by pushing their ideas to the exclusion of other townships, but a committee was appointed to draft a bill to be presented to the Legislature authorizing the annexation of Kenmore to the City of Buffalo. Some of the Erie County members of the state Legislature were in favor of taking in Cheektowaga, Amherst, West Seneca, and Grand Island. The plan to take in Kenmore only was called the "Bay Window" scheme. The Buffalo Express favored the "wholesale plan of annexation." "The result is inevitable, gravitation is not more certain."

Many years ago a pessimist said, "The country is going to the dogs," an optimist replied, "The dogs are still hungry." The situation had its amusing side also. In the Buffalo News of February 8th, 1896 a cartoon appeared showing Tonawanda's idea of annexation. It represented a Russian sled driven through a forest in winter, pursued by a pack of hungry wolves, the driver whipping the horses frantically trying to escape. A woman in the sleigh named "Tonawanda" was in the act of throwing a baby named "Kenmore" to the hungry pack, while they made a "get away."

In June 1894 Alderman Bradish sang out, "All aboard for Kenmore," from the City Hall steps in Buffalo. At 2:30 P. M. the Council started out for the village in carriages. On arriving they found Kenmore in gala attire. The residents vied with each other in showing off the beauty and advantages of the village. The aldermen were escorted to the parlors of the Methodist Episcopal Church where a demonstration of how much chicken an alderman could eat took place. President Franklin, feeling a generous impulse after eating the second piece of pie, promised to annex Kenmore right away. A joke-smith of the opposition cruelly said, "An attack of indigestion made him recall his promise."

The taxable value of Kenmore at this time was \$4,000,000, and a large amount of building was in progress. The village now had over 300 population, 4 miles of water mains, 1200 feet of gas mains, 60 dwellings, 3 churches, 2 schools, and 3 general stores. Improved street car service was obtained and "Kenmorites" as Buffalo delighted to call them, had access to the city for one fare, with service every fifteen minutes. As early training, advantages, and environment show themselves in growing boys and girls, so the social, religious and early business experiences of Kenmore's people had left its indelible impress, showing a healthy, progressive, growing village ready to enter a new stage of incorporated existence.

CHAPTER THREE

The Decade of Growth and Incorporation
1899 - 1909

Ten years had now passed by since the settlement of the village, and it was known that the population met the legal requirements for incorporation. The real object of this action was to secure the advantages of water, sewers, lighting and other necessary improvements which could not be otherwise obtained. There was no discord whatever between the village, and the Township of Tonawanda, but the town authorities had not the power that a village board would have.

On July 14th, a list of 313 names were secured—"Names of the inhabitants of the territory in the Township of Tonawanda and described in the proposition for the Incorporation of the Village of Kenmore hereto attached."

**PROPOSITION FOR THE INCORPORATION OF THE
VILLAGE OF KENMORE**

"The undersigned adult residents freeholders of the territory hereinafter described propose the incorporation thereof by the name of the Village of Kenmore."

"The territory proposed to be incorporated does not exceed one square mile and is bounded and described as follows:

"Beginning at a point in the Easterly line of Delaware Avenue at its intersection with the southerly line of lot thirty-two (32) in the Twelfth (12) Township and Eighth (8) range of the Holland Land Company's Survey, running thence Easterly along said Southerly line of lot Thirty-two (32) being also the north line of the City of Buffalo Two Thousand nine hundred thirty-one and 7-10 (2931.7) feet to the center of the Niagara Falls Boulevard.

"Thence North Easterly along said line of the Niagara Falls Boulevard Two Thousand Thirteen and 4-10 (2013.4) feet to an iron post. Thence North Easterly along said center line of the Niagara Falls Boulevard One Thousand five hundred thirty-eight and 25-100 (1538.25) feet to an iron post.

"Thence Westerly at an angle of Ninety-one degrees and forty-four minutes (91.44) with said center line of the Niagara Falls Boulevard Two Thousand and four hundred sixty and

36-100 (2460.36) feet to an iron post in the center of the old Delaware Road.

“Thence North Easterly along said center line of Old Delaware Road Four Hundred Forty and 9-10 (440.9) feet to the intersection of the center line of Old Delaware Road with the Northerly line of said lot thirty-two (32). Thence Westerly along said Northerly line of lot Thirty-seven (37) at an angle of seventy-five degrees and Twenty-four ($75^{\circ} 24''$) with the center line of Old Delaware Road Three Thousand eighty-five (3085) feet to the center line of Elmwood Avenue.

“Thence Southerly along said centerline of Elmwood Avenue Three Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-Eight and 5-10 (3968.5) feet to the Southerly line of lot Thirty-seven (37).

“Thence Easterly along said line to lots Thirty-seven and Thirty-two (37 and 32) Two Thousand four hundred eighty-six and 5-10 (2486.5) feet to the point of beginning. Such territory containing a population of Three Hundred Thirteen (313) as appears from the enumeration hereto attached.

Dated July 14th, 1899.”

The following notice was then issued from the Supervisor’s office—

NOTICE

To all whom it may concern
Take Notice

That a proposition for the incorporation of the Village of Kenmore has been received by the undersigned John K. Patton, as Supervisor of the Town of Tonawanda, that at the Public School House situated at the junction of Delaware Avenue and Old Delaware Road in such territory and on the 28th day of July 1899 at 10 o’clock in the forenoon of the said day, a hearing will be had upon such proposition and that such a proposition will be open for public inspection at the store of Francis B. Fulton situate on the west side of Delaware Avenue in such territory, until the day of such hearing.

Dated July 17, 1899

John K. Patton,
Supervisor of the Town of Tonawanda.

The minutes taken at this meeting are filed with the decision of the Supervisor, in the Town Clerk’s Office (Vault of the Village Hall, 1926) and also the original petition and a copy of the above notice and Mr. Bryant’s (Town Clerk) affidavit.

“Calvin E. Bryant on the 17th day of July 1889 and ten

days prior to the hearing posted a copy of the notice: One, Front door of Public School House, Delaware Avenue and Delaware Road; One, Front of store of Francis B. Fulton, West side of Delaware Avenue; One, between telephone Pole East side of Delaware Avenue and city line. These were posted "conspicuously" and in a "substantial" manner."

This was sworn to before Howard Winship

Notary Public

NOTICE OF ELECTION

"To be held in the Public School House 5th day of September 1889 between the hours of 1 P. M. and sunset of said day for the purpose of determining the question of incorporation upon such proposition.

John C. Webb, Town Clerk
of the Town of Tonawanda."

The notice was posted in eleven conspicuous places ten days before the date fixed for the election. The whole number of ballots cast was 32: for incorporation 31; against incorporation 1. Frank E. Hall was appointed Village Clerk September 16th, 1889 by John C. Webb, Town Clerk of Tonawanda until his successor was chosen.

So one-sided was the election that there was no excitement whatever. The fact that only 32 votes were cast not mean that only that number of people were interested in the proposition, for not all who are entitled to vote at regular County, State and National elections can vote on the question of incorporation. The Crystal Springs Water Co., anticipating favorable action on incorporation, had already made application for the privilege of supplying Kenmore residents with water.

FIRST VILLAGE ELECTION

Notice of the election of village officers was called for the third day of October from 10 A. M. to 4 P. M. at the Public School House by Frank E. Hall, acting Village Clerk. The total number of votes cast for the office of President was 30; of which, Myron A. Phelps received 29, and Jacob Heimiller 1. The Trustees, long term, 31 votes were cast; of which Wellington B. Tanner received 24, George A. Besch 3, Calvin E. Bryant 2, Frank Mang 1, Fred Ebling 1. For Trustees, short term; Calvin E. Bryant received 16 votes, George A. Besch 11, Wellington B. Tanner 2. Francis B. Fulton was elected Treasurer receiving 27 votes. Frank C. Stillwell was elected Collector. Virgil M. Hunter, Harvey Sperry, and George A. Besch were chosen Inspectors of Election.

FIRST BOARD MEETING

The first meeting of the Village Board was held at the home of the President, Myron A. Phelps, October 4, 1899. Frank E. Hall was appointed Village Clerk, George A. Besch, Street Commissioner. A village seal and stationery were ordered. The City National Bank of Buffalo was named as depository for village funds. George H. Frost was appointed Village Attorney. The Board was authorized to borrow "upon the credit of the village not to exceed \$500 for the purpose of raising funds to defray the expenses of incorporation".

Such were the small beginnings of the political life of Kenmore. The first "Village Fathers" were men of upright character, breadth of vision, and deeply interested in the welfare of the growing community. Encouragement was given to everything that would build up the village on a substantial basis and make it attractive to home seekers. Anything likely to debase the moral and social life was vigilantly excluded.

NAMES AND TERMS OF VILLAGE PRESIDENTS

Myron A. Phelps, 1899-1901
Fred B. Eberhardt, 1901-1902
George A Besch, 1902-1904
Myron A. Phelps, 1904-1906
R. D. C. Rudhard, 1906-1910
Robert L. Kimberley, 1910-1911
R. D. C. Rudhard, 1911-Resigned
E. B. Olmstead, Vacancy-1912
Matthew D. Young, 1912-1919
A. R. Atkinson, 1919-1921
Walter Ducker, 1921-1924
R. R. Brockett, 1924-1926

THE INFANT VILLAGE

Incorporation having been secured the village entered upon a new life. It felt like a boy wearing his first pair of long trousers, or better let us say, like a young man who has reached his majority. The new born village gave a note to W. Harris Day, of Batavia, N. Y. for eight months in the amount of \$500, October 20, 1899, and thus secured funds for running expenses until taxes could be levied.

Village Treasurer, F. B. Fulton was bonded in the amount of \$1000. Immediate attention was given to sidewalks, water, lighting, and sewerage. The Village Board voted unanimously for a system of water supply from Buffalo, giving bonds for

\$6000 to pay for the same.

Thirty street signs were placed for \$9.45. Property owners on Hazeltine Ave were notified to lay board sidewalks, the cost to be 16 cents per lineal foot. How very small these expenses seem, and how low the cost as compared with the sums that are now annually expended for the up-keep of the village. The Tonawanda News carried all printed proposals, bids, and notices, as no newspaper was then printed in the village.

SPEED LIMITS

In May 1900 an ordinance was passed forbidding any "horse, or mechanical device" to travel "faster than at a pace of eight miles an hour" within the village limits. Bicycles were placed under similar restraint, under "penalty of a \$5 or \$25 fine", and the village was not considered "slow" either, as might appear in contrast with the speed limits of today which seem slow at twenty miles an hour to the man driving a six-cylinder car. The total valuation of resident property holders at this time was \$279,361. A resident of E. Hazeltine Avenue was notified not to let his horses run at large on that street. As this was in the month of June 1902, it is presumed that there was pretty good picking for the "Spark Plugs" on what is now a busy street with concrete pavement.

SPECIAL ELECTIONS

A special election was held May 14, 1902, at which the question of establishing a water system was submitted, at an estimated cost of \$20,000. Forty-seven votes were cast all of which were in the affirmative. The bonds were bought by O'Connor & Kahler, 49 Wall Street, New York at 5%. Similar proceedings were taken August 5, 1902 to secure a lighting system for \$5000, a unanimous vote of twenty-one ballots being cast. While the vote was light it was unanimous, and compares favorably with special elections held even twenty years later.

MR. SQUIRE AND THE "KIDDIES"

That the residents of Kenmore were alive to the needs of the children at the time of incorporation is evident from an item in the Buffalo News of October 16, 1899, which refers to Mr. W. F. Squire as the "gentleman with spectacles, plaintive voice, and courteous but determined never-to-let-go perseverance". Mr. Squire secured for that part of Buffalo which the genial "Al" Lockwood calls "South Kenmore" a two-room school house on Ramsdell Ave, to accommodate the forty or

more children in and about Villa Ave, who were obliged to trudge to School No. 21 on Hertel Avenue, in all sorts of weather. The school house was afterwards used by the Baptist congregation of Kenmore, and a larger school house was built on Sessions Street. The original school house was partially destroyed by fire and rebuilt as a residence, No. 29 Ramsdell Avenue.

BUILDING BOOM AND JOLLIFICATION

The year 1903 witnessed a new impetus in building. Hundreds of people were seeking houses. Rents were \$15 and \$20 a month, but few were to be had. From the beginning Kenmore has been a village of home owners. This has been a factor in the trim neatness of the lawns, variety of shrubbery and shade trees which has gained for the village the title of "Buffalo's most beautiful suburb". The night of January 21, 1903 was a "Jollification". Kenmore was illuminated with gas for the first time. The Niagara Light, Heat, and Power Co. completed connections with the local system and piping of houses for light and cooking went on with a rush. On March 26, 1903 the first steps were taken toward the erection of a Village and Fire Hall. Five notices were posted for a public hearing to be held on March 30, "for the purpose of deciding on either renting or building a Fire Hall". The decision was for "building". A special election was held May 1, at which the village voted to issue bonds for \$4000 for the purpose. Bids were opened June 1, and J. B. Rickert was awarded the contract. The building was formally accepted December 12, 1903, situate No. 2831 Delaware Avenue. May 16, 1904, the Village Trustees authorized the purchase of a 500 pound bell for the Fire Hall from the Meneely Bell Company of Troy, N. Y. for \$235. The bell was suitably inscribed with the names of:

"Myron A. Phelps, President;
R. D. C. Rudhard, Trustee;
John I. Keller, Trustee;
George H. Pirson, Clerk;
Frank C. Stillwell, Chief."

After the installation of the Siren alarm the bell was placed in a concrete kiosk on the village green.

AN OLD TIME BRIDGE

When Kenmore was first settled a stream of water had its source in the north-eastern section of the village near McKinley Avenue and Colvin Boulevard. It flowed down Myron

Avenue, across Delaware Avenue into the Scjacquada Creek, Buffalo. The stream was known as Cornelius Creek. A bridge spanned the stream, which in the spring of the year was a wide creek at Kenmore Avenue and Myron Avenue. The former bed of the stream may still be traced in the alluvial soil of Kenmore Avenue and Villa Avenue.

On July 11, 1904, the Town of Tonawanda was notified to either repair the bridge, or build a new structure. The residents of Myron Avenue found it necessary to make a deep ditch by the roadside to carry the surplus water to the bridge. Nearly all traces of this creek have disappeared; a small viaduct on Delaware Avenue near the ball grounds remained for many years after the water was drained into the sewer systems.

SNOW STORMS AND STRAY DOGS

The snow fall during the winter of 1905 was so heavy that traffic was "completely closed" on Delaware Avenue. "The deplorable condition making it physically impossible for children to go to school". The situation was aggravated by the use of a rotary snow plow on the trolley line, which piled the snow on the walks as fast as it was removed. A remonstrance was made, and snow fences were placed in the fields on the west side side of Delaware Avenue. The drifts in some places reached nearly to the top of the telephone poles. The village had to deal with many "ancient wrongs" during the spring. The primitive custom of allowing chickens, cows, and horses to "run at large" became a nuisance. Crowing cocks disturbed the slumbers of late sleepers. On April 1, a resident being "greatly annoyed" complained to the Village Board. The date of the petition being taken into consideration, it was considered as an "April Fool" joke. Being assured to the contrary action was taken by the Board to "keep the chickens within the bounds of her own property", and notice was sent to the transgressor. "Stray" and "Biting" dogs, boys "meddling with street lamps," "pilfering books" from the school house, "driving on the sidewalks," "defacing signs," and other less weighty matters received attention during the meetings of the Village Board, as well as selling lots and issuing building permits. History always has and always will record the faults and foibles of the people; civilization will never outgrow them. The Village, itself, was like an irrepressible boy; as to its age, it was but six years old.

EXTENSION AND POLITICS

The watchword of 1906 was "Extension." At a special election on June 25, a proposition was carried by a majority of 25 votes, ten voting against it, to take in a large section on the north, from the Niagara Falls Boulevard to Military Road. \$31,000 covered by bonds was expended in extending sewers and pavements. Men with vision saw that the trend of population was toward the north, and later years have proved the clearness of their vision. During this period of Kenmore's political history, continuing down to 1912 and beyond two organizations were striving for mastery; the "Greater Kenmore," and the "Good Government" parties; the latter nicknamed the "Goo Goos." The contention became so hot that newspapers throughout western New York carried stirring comments which put Kenmore "on the map."

NIGHT POLICEMEN AND SKATING RINK

On March 20, 1908 the Village Board appointed Charles Stephen Sr. "Night Policeman" at a salary of \$600 a year. He was instructed to "wear proper and necessary uniform." Stationed at Delaware Avenue and Kemore Avenue during the late hours of the night and early hours of the morning, as the trolley cars reached the terminal, all suspicious characters who could not give a satisfactory account of their business were turned back to Buffalo or sent on to Tonawanda. The residents rested more peacefully because of this vigilant and faithful officer of the law. Situated midway between Buffalo and the Tonawandas, crooks of all kinds have been given through passage either way, so that the peace and quietness of the Village has rarely been disturbed during the night. During the year a license was granted the Palace Roller Rink Co., to operate in "Kenmore Convention Hall" for a fee of \$10. This hall with so pretentious a name, rented to a company with so aspiring a name, was really a political "Wigwam," and was located on Delaware Avenue near the corner of Wabash Avenue, the site now occupied by E. R. Ashbery, No. 2968 Delaware Avenue. For many years previously the "craze" of roller skating had swept the country. Roller Skating Rinks could be found in every village and hamlet throughout the land. As this form of amusement became stabilized and occupied better buildings, these Rinks were used for Gospel and Temperance meetings accommodating large crowds. One fervent Prohibitionist comparing the two different uses made of these temporary structures was heard to exclaim, "How the devil must be gnashing

his teeth." And no wonder, for the Village Board had to take action, after investigation of the conduct in the Rink, and impose strict rules and regulations as to opening and closing hours.

The first decade of incorporate life closed with a rapidly growing population. Farm lands were being subdivided into village lots. A bill was passed permitting the Village to collect taxes from delinquents who were non-residents. Many shade trees were planted. Streets were extended and paved. New business houses and offices were opened to take care of increased business.

"The Center of the Niagara Frontier Industrial District"

CHAPTER FOUR

Development and the World War

1909 - 1918

NEW FIRE ENGINE AND VILLAGE HALL

Sometimes a mother is heard to say, "My daughter is growing so fast that it keeps me busy lengthening her dresses", but that was before the days of "Bobbing" either hair or skirts. So rapid was the development of the village that the administration was extremely busy. Permits to erect new homes, and an increasing number of bills to audit each week marked the proceedings. New streets were laid out and old ones lengthened. A special election was held in November 1909 on the question of spending \$1700 for an automatic fire alarm system, \$400 for a chemical fire engine, and \$100 for an extension ladder. Each proposition was carried at the polls. On April 18, 1910, the Board took a recess to witness a demonstration of the chemical fire extinguisher purchased from the La France Chemical Fire Extinguisher at a cost of \$425. The exhibition and the engine both proved to be a great success.

At a special election held July 16, a proposition to purchase the vacated Union School Building for \$9500 to be used as a Village Hall was unanimously carried. The building is still in use and marks the civic center of the Village. Up to this time the Board meetings were held in the Fire Hall. It was felt that a long step had been taken in advance. On November 25, 1910, Myron A. Phelps, the first Village President, and one of the original settlers and most influential citizens, died and was buried in Elmlawn Cemetery. For seven years previous to his demise he occupied the position of Sergeant-at-arms in the State Capital, Albany.

DANGEROUS GRADE CROSSING

One of the first actions taken by the newly organized Village Board on March 27, 1911, was in reference to the frequent accidents occurring at the double grade crossing on Delaware Avenue over the tracks of the D. L. & W. R. R. and Erie Railroad. The death of a young lad at that place had recently occurred. In the strongest language possible the matter was laid before the Public Service Commission. Two years later (1913) the present subways were completed and, as is always the case,

the public wondered how the old order of things was endured so long. It is to Kenmore that the credit belongs for the improvement.

ELECTRICITY AND POLITICS

On June 3, 1912, the Buffalo General Electric Company was granted permission to operate for distribution of electricity for light, heat, and power in Kenmore. Its use soon became general and "gas mantles" became obsolete. There was however, another kind of "gas" that came into general use at this time, and people began to "step on it". Repeated warnings were issued against "speeding" through the village.

The great American amusement of politics was carried on with much zeal by rival factions at this time, and the Village Hall was freely granted both sides for "Rallies" which drew capacity crowds. Whatever the result of the election the Village continued to grow. The differences more particularly concerned administrative policy than anything else. It is to Kenmore's credit that the people were deeply interested in the problems of self-government. They got out to vote and kept posted in civic affairs.

THE "KENMORE ECHO"

The "Greater Kenmore" party which had been in power for several years made a great effort to retain leadership, priding themselves on the condition of the village under their administration. For two years the "Kenmore Echo", the organ of the party, was published by W. G. Ruddle at the "The Printery" on West Hazeltine Avenue. With the victory resting upon the "Good Government" banners the paper ceased publication.

THE TRIANGLE

It does not seem credible that in the year 1913 a proposition was carried at the polls to purchase the triangle plot of land in front of the Village Hall for the paltry sum of \$55. Or at least that portion of it which was not included in the original site of the Public School Building, now the Village Hall, and lying between Old Delaware Road and Delaware Avenue. This beautiful plot of land now adorned with the captured cannon, old fire bell in its kiosk, and World War Memorial could not be purchased now for a hundred times that sum. It is comparable only to the purchase of Manhattan Island by the Dutch from the Indians for "The value of sixty guilders", about twenty-four dollars gold.

KENMORE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

For several years the Kenmore Civic Association was very active in village improvement. "Civic Week" was celebrated each year with a program of events intended to advertise, advance, and improve the Village as a desirable place for homes. The churches, schools, fire department and other organizations were all enlisted to provide entertainment and public exercises. The celebration was always a success. Buttons with "K. C. A.—Boost, Build, Boom Kenmore" were worn. "Stickers" for the backs of letters, and an illustrated booklet "Kenmore, Buffalo's Home Suburb" were distributed and mailed to other places.

THE "KENMORE NEWS"

The "Kenmore News" owned and edited by Ray D. French, was the official paper of the village, and Town of Tonawanda in 1912, and was published on the first Thursday of each month. Mr. French was the cashier of the State Bank of Kenmore at the opening of that institution. The "News" was bought by the "Kenmore Record". Mr. French moved to California and died in Los Angeles, November 27, 1922. His life motto was "For Others".

PRE-VOLSTEAD PRICES

In the "Kenmore Echo" of March 17, 1913 (note the date) appeared an advertisement of a "Family Liquor Store, W. W. Mang, Proprietor", in which was offered "Meadville Rye, 25 cents per bottle"; "California Port Wine, 25 cents per bottle"; "Duffy's Malt Whiskey, 85 cents per bottle"; "Delivered at your Door". S. Varga charged 85 cents for "Men's Sewed Soles"; Haircuts were 25 cents, and shaving 10 cents. Such were pre-war prices.

Toward the close of the year 1916 an appeal was made to the U. S. Post Office authorities for the free delivery of mail in the village which was granted a few months later, the carriers starting from Station H, Main Street, Buffalo.

VILLAGE GOVERNMENT

The estimated village tax in 1915 was \$25,761.09. The proposition for removal of ashes, garbage and rubbish \$1200. The Village Board was composed of Matthew D. Young, President; Trustees, F. D. Booth, W. B. Smith, A. E. Seipp, C. J. J. Seaman; Treasurer, R. A. Toms; Collector, Andrew S. Walker; Sup't Public Works, Fred Ebling; Chief of Police, Albert F. Pallow; Clerk, E. W. Johnson. As a study in comparative

prices, "bids for 25 tons of coal delivered at the Fire Hall were received at \$6.25 and \$6.30 per ton".

THE "KENMORE RECORD"

The first issue of the "Kenmore Record" appeared as a four page weekly on February 3, 1916, A. L. Brainard editor and proprietor. Mr. Brainard was considered one of the best newspaper reporters in Buffalo. The "Record" filled the want of the growing Kenmore field at once and soon outgrew its infant clothes appearing in larger form. In size it has kept pace with the growth of the village. In politics it is independent. In the year 1922, William B. Smith bought a half interest in the Kenmore Record which was incorporated in the same year. W. B. Smith was elected president and A. L. Brainard treasurer. The first issue in the new plant was an eight page paper with a circulation of one thousand; it is now printing a sixteen page paper and has a circulation of twenty-seven hundred. The special features are of great interest to all classes of readers. It is now printed in its own plant at 11 LaSalle Avenue.

SILVER JUBILEE

The Silver Jubilee of the Methodist Episcopal Church was celebrated in February 1916 while the Rev. Fred'k S. Parkhurst Ph.D. was pastor. Extensive interior improvements were made during the summer. Dr. Parkhurst retired from the active ministry in October 1916, having served the church four years, and became a permanent resident in the Village taking up general insurance work and writing. He was appointed Local Historian of Kenmore and Tonawanda by the State University in 1919.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

One of the last, and perhaps the greatest achievements of the Kenmore Civic Association was the founding of the Kenmore Public Library. It was a noteworthy achievement and a lasting monument of what can be accomplished by united, persevering effort. The Library was opened on July 4, 1916 in the Village Hall with public exercises. Eleven hundred books donated at the start. On April 7, 1924, after being a dependent tenant in the Village Hall, with the exception of a year in the "Y. W.", the Trustees purchased the property in Mang Avenue, which was opened for library purposes on May 17. At

a special taxpayers vote on July 7, the sum of \$6000 was appropriated and the library became the property of the Village. The transfer was signed by the Village authorities on January 3, 1925. An inventory included 2659 books valued at \$1,315, furniture \$500, building \$8000, cash in bank \$578.30, Total \$10,393.30, for which the taxpayers paid \$6000. The Library is now in a growing and flourishing condition.

NO "EAST SIDE, WEST SIDE"

In order that there should be no "East" and "West" side in Kenmore, the streets so designated were re-named. On the east side of Delaware Avenue; East Tremaine Avenue, and East LaSalle Avenue, were re-named respectively Parkwood Avenue, and Euclid Avenue. There are no "Streets" in Kenmore. All thoroughfares are either Avenues, Roads, or Boulevards. Thus we escape being a "Main Street" town.

Mr. J. B. Rickert long identified as a prominent citizen and builder, died February 12, 1916.

During the summer an addition of twelve rooms was made to the High School at a cost of \$46,000.

Rev. C. W. Winchester, D. D., a retired Methodist Episcopal clergyman died March 24, 1916. He was distinguished as an author and lecturer, and was a property owner in the Village for many years.

Village President Young appointed April 8 as "Tag Day" to raise funds for the destitute in the War Zone. The Fred B. Eberhardt home on Delaware Avenue was sold to the Wheel Chair Home for \$17,400 and was occupied on May 1.

Mrs. Frances E. A. Zimmerman, widow of James B. Zimmerman, one of Erie County's most popular residents and Supervisor of Tonawanda, died on May 13. Mrs. Zimmerman was an old resident and greatly beloved by a wide circle of friends. She was active in church and temperance work. Both at this time, and at the death of Mr. Zimmerman which occurred May 18, 1894, a gloom of sadness was thrown over the entire village. Mr. Zimmerman was an ardent Democrat in politics, and during his lifetime held various official positions in Erie County. He was a Free Mason, and an ardent worker and liberal supporter of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

CHAPTER FIVE

Kenmore In The World War

HOME DEFENSE RESERVE

April 6, 1917, The American Congress declared the existence of a state of war with Germany. In common with all parts of our country the village was already aroused with interest in the struggle going on overseas. A number of our men were in the National Guard and Regular U. S. Forces. Kenmore had a number of recruits on the Mexican border in Texas. Corporal Gordon P. Gilbert, 3rd Artillery, Lieut. Harry Crosby, Lieut. Lyman Shaw, and Privates Peel, Raeder, Yochum, Bleyle, Davis, Westfield, Warren and Berger were with the colors before war was declared.

On June 12, in response to the call of the Governor for a reserve National Guard, the 195th Company, 4th Brigade, Home Defense Reserve was organized in Kenmore at the Village Hall. A firing squad from the 74th Regiment, Buffalo, demonstrated a Lewis Machine Gun. General Edgar B. Jewett spoke on the aims of the organization. Captain Meier of the Buffalo Mounted Police formed and drilled a company of 87 men who signed the roll. The Company marched up Delaware Avenue to the city line and were dismissed. On August 21, the Company was mustered in by Major H. W. Brendel. Fifty men took the oath of service. September 4, the Company elected the following officers: Albert C. Towne, Captain; Robert L. Kimberley, 1st Lieut.; Fred C. Post, 2nd Lieut. Uniforms were provided by Erie County, and the men were armed with Marlin Rifles. Meetings of the Company were held in the Village Hall, and drill took place every Tuesday night. Frederick S. Parkhurst was appointed Sergeant, Company Clerk, and Chaplain, "Detached Service". On July 18, Captain A. C. Towne resigned and Lieut. Roy E. Perrigo succeeded in command. Frank C. Densberger was elected Second Lieut. in place of Fred C. Post, who entered the regular service and went overseas. Paul Condrell presented the Company with a silk flag 6 x 9 fringed with gold. The Company went into camp over Labor Day at Wheatfield Farm, on the banks of the Niagara River near LaSalle. Sunday September 1, Field Day services were held by Chaplain Parkhurst who led the singing and delivered an address.

Mr. Condrell who came from Greece when fifteen years of age and was exempt from the draft, having only taken out his first citizenship papers waived his claim saying, "I am glad to recognize the United States as my country, and am willing to do anything that Uncle Sam may want me to do." Three barrels of fruit pits used for making carbon gas masks were collected in September 1918. The Company took an active part in the several Liberty Loan drives and Red Cross work. The Kenmore Fife and Drum Corps was an outgrowth of Mr. Condrell's work in the Company. On February 25, 1919 the Company was mustered out by Major Fowler of Buffalo, 31 received honorable discharges, many others having entered the regular military service. The total number belonging to the Company was 96. The "Armory" was in the Tower Room of the Village Hall. No ammunition was ever distributed, not a shot was fired. Registration for the Selective Draft in Kenmore took place on Tuesday, June 5, in the Village Hall.

LIBERTY LOANS

Kenmore went "Over the Top" in the several Liberty Loan drives. In the First Liberty Loan, \$17,000 was subscribed being led by Matthew D. Young, Chairman; Clarence C. Miller, Sec'y; Otto Bleyle, A. L. Brainard, F. T. Hall, Andrew Steen and F. J. Wheeler. In the Second Liberty Loan \$33,100 was subscribed led by J. M. Champion, Mrs. F. D. Booth, Chairman of the Women's Committee. In the Third Liberty Loan \$58,150 was subscribed. In the Fourth Liberty Loan \$93,400 was subscribed by the entire township of Tonawanda. In the Victory Liberty Loan floated in the summer of 1918 \$71,100 was subscribed, an excess of \$21,100. Mrs. C. L. Titus was Chairman of the Woman's Committee.

RED CROSS WORK

The Tuesday Culture Club was the first organization to take up Red Cross work in Kenmore. The club gave up their annual banquet in May 1917 using \$50 to purchase a Base Hospital Bed in Buffalo No. 23, also a one man outfit \$15. In June a gift of \$10 was made to the Fruit Fund. In October a \$6.45 welfare gift was made to the Kenmore boys in the U. S. Service. A total of 446 garments and pieces were made and given between May 4, and October 2, and for the 74th Regiment 113 pieces, a grand total of 559 pieces.

KENMORE BRANCH OF RED CROSS

The Kenmore Branch of the American Red Cross was organized in the Village Hall April 20, 1917: Dr. W. J. M. Wurtz, Chairman; Mrs. C. L. Titus, Vice Chairman; Mrs. H. Haas, Recording Sec'y.; Miss B. A. Myers, Cor. Sec'y.; Mrs. Louis Neustadter, Treas.; Committees on Ways and Means, Program, Press, Work, Membership, Amusements, Clubs, and Churches were appointed. The workroom was in the Kenmore High School, excepting six weeks in the winter of 1917-1918, when three meetings a week were held in the home of Dr. H. T. Gal-lager on account of coal shortage.

During the first year the following output was made: Surgical Dressings, 23,760; Knitting, 757; Garments, 1556; Money raised, \$1251.91; Extras, \$326.89; Total, \$1578.80. All materials were supplied by the Buffalo Chapter. During 1918 the same officers served with the exception that Miss B. A. Myers was elected Vice President. \$3128.11 was contributed to the Second Red Cross War Fund, the quota being \$2000. 138 meetings were held. The following work was done: Garments, 2383; Surgical Dressings, 14,708; Knitting, 782; 196 magazines and books were sent to the Soldiers' Camp in Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo. 2250 pounds of clothing for refugees in Europe. Money received, \$1049.13 which was paid to Civilian Relief; Regular Funds \$326.18.

After the armistice the Kenmore Branch continued to "carry on" during 1919 sewing for the refugees, peace programs, and home nursing. Kenmore was one of the first in Erie County to engage a Red Cross Public Health Nurse. This wonderful record does not cover all the work done and money spent by the organization. Many of our citizens worked and subscribed through the Buffalo Chapter. This was true also in a general way during the war. The majority of our people work in Buffalo and belong to various social, fraternal, and benevolent organizations in that city, and also patronize Buffalo banks, and places of amusements. The Buffalo record shows that subscriptions and work were given that did not pass through the Kenmore organizations. Kenmore "carried on" up to the limit and beyond during the war.

IN U. S. SERVICE

Capt. Henry A. Brown reported for duty at the Rock Island, Ill., Arsenal on June 12th. Henry Hider a yeoman in the navy was appointed Stenographer on the staff of Admiral Sims. Howard Dobson received the appointment of radio

operator, and Willard Dobson to hospital service. Capt. D. W. Bailey, a pioneer citizen and member of the G. A. R. died July 15th, 1918, aged 82. The new fire alarm system for the village was completed and in use September 25th, 1918.

PEACE AND WAR

The first mail delivered by carriers went into effect April 1st, 1918 from Station H. Buffalo. Rev. Dr. C. H. Norris died May 3rd, 1918. Dr. Norris was a prominent member of the Genesee Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church for 36 years. His seven years of retirement from effective service were spent in Kenmore. The L. P. A. Eberhardt property at Delaware Avenue and West Hazeltine Avenue was purchased by the War Council of the Y. W. C. A. and an addition built for a Cafeteria. The institution housed twenty-five girls engaged in war work. Thus passed into semi-public use the two brown stone residences at the entrance to Kenmore from the south, built in 1893-4. The fire-proof vault addition was built adjoining the village hall in November at a cost of \$4000.

CURTISS AEROPLANE COMPANY

During the war Kenmore felt the benefit of the Curtiss Aeroplane Company, which operated the world's largest aeroplane factory. The testing grounds occupied thirty acres on Elmwood Avenue and Military Road, partly within the village limits. Kenmore provided homes for many of the workmen.

On May 29th, Milton Brounshidle and Irwin Brounshidle, Romaine Heald, Fred C. Post, and William F. Thorn left for Camp Dix.

THE HONORED DEAD

Lieutenant Harry E. Crosby, formerly of the 74th Regiment and later of company K, 108th Regiment was killed going "over the top" at the head of his men in Bony, France, on September 29th, 1918. Milton J. Brounshidle made the "supreme sacrifice" at St. Mihiel, France, September 28th, 1918. Lambert J. Keller laid down his life for his country in the Argonne drive, October 2nd, 1918. Winfield B. Kimmins fell at Champagne, France, October 6th, 1918. Frederick B. Eberhardt Jr., died at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station January 20th, 1919. Joseph Leo Byrnes died at Tours, France, February 5th, 1919. J. Owen Fisher died at Coblenz, Germany, March 1st, 1919.

THE MEMORIAL TABLET

"In memory of those who gave their lives in the great world war," a Memorial Tablet in memory of those who fell in the great struggle was unveiled on Memorial Day May 30th, 1920 on the lawn in front of the village hall, one of the most conspicuous locations in Kenmore. The ceremony was of a military character in charge of Brounshidle Post No. 205. City Judge Patrick J. Keeler of Buffalo who served as Captain in the 106th Artillery in France delivered the address. Rev. Dr. F. Hyatt Smith, of the Presbyterian Church made the invocation. Dr. Walter J. M. Wurtz, Chairman of the committee to procure funds and erect the tablet made the presentation. Arthur R. Atkinson, President of the Village accepted the tablet in behalf of the Town of Tonawanda. Captain Henry A. Brown, U. S. Engineers, of the American Legion removed the flag which covered the bronze tablet. The Rev. Arthur Partington of the Methodist Episcopal Church offered a prayer for the repose of the dead. The Rev. Father Bank of St. Paul's Parish offered the closing prayer.

The monument is of solid rough-faced granite, six feet in height, three feet nine inches in width, and two feet eight inches in depth, a lasting memorial to the boys who never returned from the war.

AFTER THE WORLD STRUGGLE

Similar psychological effects followed the great world war that were experienced in common with the rest of the country and the world. A reaction followed the strain under which the people had been working. A letting loose of pent-up feelings; a freedom from restraint, a prodigality of spending, a questioning of old accepted standards in ethics and religion, a larger independence in the attitude of women in regard to dress, industrial life and politics. The propinquity of Buffalo to Kenmore naturally affected the daily life of our village in all the expressions of thought and action. Yet during the progress of the war the affairs of the village under the administration of Matthew D. Young, and Arthur R. Aatkinson went on, so far as improvement and orderliness were concerned, with regularity and tranquility.

THE VILLAGE LOCKUP ¹

In July 1919 the Commissioner of Prisons ordered the village lockup closed within ninety days, because it was below the required standard fixed by the State. In September an extension of time was asked by the village until January 1st,

1920. Meanwhile it was decided to remove the "Cages" from the Fire Hall and turn the matter of incarceration of prisoners over to the town authorities. Thereafter those under detention were kept in the Tonawanda Police Headquarters in the old Laundry Building which was purchased, located on Delaware Avenue at Norway Street.

RE-PAVING DELAWARE AVENUE

The brick pavement on Delaware Avenue went to pieces under the heavy truck traffic and a new pavement of concrete was laid during the summer of 1919. Bonds were issued in the amount of \$8500.00 to meet the expense apportioned to the Village. Transfers were given on No. 9 Street Cars to our residents and the public who lived on Delaware Avenue and streets adjacent thereto as far as the north village line.

SHELTER WANTED

The outskirts of any city are always the last to receive the improvements accorded the thickly populated sections. This is naturally the case. Witness the fact in the condition of South Eugene Avenue at the Buffalo city line, also Virgil Avenue and Kenmore Avenue, both east and west. Attention was called by the Village to the Buffalo International Railway terminus at Elmwood Avenue and Hinman Street where passengers must wait in all kinds of weather without shelter. Like conditions have existed at other points since the founding of the village. The people of our progressive village have certainly been numbered among the "long suffering public" in matters of public transportation.

COAL SHORTAGE

The coal situation was very acute in 1920. A committee was appointed by the Village Board to try and regulate the supply and demand. Two cars of forty-five tons each were secured by Mang & Ebling, and L. Spring & Sons. One ton lots were sold to a customer, after inspection of the coal bin, and on order of the Coal Committee. Nor were these periodic privations to see an end at the close of this struggle in our economic life. "The worst was yet to come" during the winter of 1925-1926. Kenmore co-operated with the Bureau of Fuel Administration.

Arthur R. Atkinson retired as President of the Village on March 21st, 1921. On surrendering the position to Walter Ducker, President elect, he gave a resume of his experiences thanking his co-laborers and the public for their co-operation

and congratulating Mr. Ducker on his incumbency. Frank C. Moore was re-appointed Village Clerk.

ZONING ORDINANCE

With the rapid growth of the Village the question of restriction in the location and kind of buildings erected was inevitable. This became necessary in order to prevent deterioration of property values, the invasion of purely residential sections by business concerns, and the erection of cheap and unsightly dwellings. In 1922 a committee was appointed by the Village Board. Henry C. Premus and the Village Attorney Fred J. Blackmon, and later Frank C. Moore rendered invaluable aid in this direction. "The Village Beautiful" must be watched with eternal vigilance in order to retain its beauty. Unsightly bill boards, "hot dog" stands, uneven sidewalks, accumulation of rubbish left by careless contractors, the erection of signs, placing of telephone poles, unnecessary removal of shade trees, as well as parking of automobiles, street names and numbers must be carefully watched in order to preserve the neatness and ornamental appearance of the Village. The intrusion and carelessness of a few should not destroy the caution and artistic taste of the many.

STREET NAMES

It was learned in 1923 that twenty-eight streets in Kenmore duplicated the names of streets in Buffalo and as Kenmore's mail is delivered from Buffalo numerous complaints of mail delivery were made. This would be provided against if Kenmore had a postoffice, which it should have. However, to conform to the wishes of the postoffice department, the names of several streets were changed on suggestion of President Walter Ducker of the Village and in naming new streets the custom of choosing the names of prominent deceased citizens is commendable. The community spirit is alive in our village. A common interest is recognized by our citizens. This is necessary for orderly government and invaluable as an asset.

"STEP ON IT"

In the Revolutionary War John Marshall led a company of soldiers armed with flintlock guns, and Franklin worked at night by the light of tallow "dips." Our grandfathers used ox teams for farm work and road travel. Even when horses superseded as a means of rapid transit six miles an hour, or fifty miles a day was "going some." But in the year of grace

1921 the speed limit for motor vehicles passing through our village was limited to "twenty miles an hour." Infractions of the law led to a fine of \$50. Kenmore became a "Speed Trap," so motorists said. How to safe-guard pedestrians and at the same time prevent traffic congestion on Delaware Avenue is a problem that may be partly solved by widening our main artery of travel.

ECHOES OF THE WAR

In 1922 the American Legion having acquired a naval gun which did service on the Von Steuben in the German navy during the world war, permission was asked to place it on the triangle village green which was granted. The trophy is not only an interesting relic, but provides any amount of amusement to school boys who take a sight along the barrel, manipulate the gears and shoot down imaginary enemies.

The street connecting Elmwood Avenue and Military Road near the west end of LaSalle Avenue, was designated "Keller Avenue," in honor of Lambert Keller who made the "supreme sacrifice" in France during the world war.

On March 6th, 1922 the Village Tax Budget was \$68,676.34

"A Village of Attractive Homes"

CHAPTER SIX

Progress and Silver Jubilee

Kenmore's progress in 1924 surpassed any other year since the founding of the village. 787 building permits were issued involving an estimated cost of \$3,007,962. Bonds were issued for \$150,000 for water extension, and \$126,000 for gas mains. Kenmore at this time was one of the most rapidly growing villages in the country. The population touched the 6500 mark. Mail was now received from Hertel Station, Buffalo, and distributed in the village by seven carriers. The demand for a Post Office in Kenmore was revived. The Delaware Avenue motor bus service to Buffalo with an eight minute schedule was started on November 27th. A seven year contract was made between the Village and the Republic Light, Heat, and Power Company for gas supply. Large mains from Tonawanda with feed lines east and west from the Village Hall were laid.

SILVER JUBILEE

The outstanding event of 1924 was the Silver Jubilee Celebration commemorating the quarter century from the incorporation of the Village, which took place August 3rd—9th. Sunday was called "Church Day." Special services were held in all the churches during the morning. In the evening Hon. Daniel A. Reed of Dunkirk, N. Y. addressed a mass meeting in the spacious auditorium of the new High School.

Monday was "Rotary Day" and "Boy Scout Day" and was ushered in with aerial bombs and siren whistle and closed with a fine display of fireworks. A program of sports and events by the Boy Scouts took place in the afternoon. The streets and business places were gaily decorated. Bolton's Band of 35 pieces played every afternoon on the village green and for dancing at the large pavilion corner of Delaware Avenue and Westgate Avenue where now stands the artistic "Circle Building" containing ten stores. Tuesday was "Ladies Day." A luncheon was served under the auspices of the League of Women Voters with a program and noted women speakers from the county and state. Wednesday was "Firemen's Day." A parade in which the several organizations of

fire-fighters, with the village apparatus took part, and of which the village has always been justly proud, called forth exclamations of pleasure and rounds of applause. The Village officials and celebration committees took part in the imposing parade. Athletic events occupied the afternoon, dancing and the "Midway" the evening. Thursday, "Children's Day" was marked with a unique event—a "Baby Contest." The first prize was awarded baby William Hutchison the 10 month and one week old son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hutchison of Kinsey Avenue, weight 20 pounds five ounces, general appearance and health 100%. Kenmore, unlike many older villages in Western New York which have "gone to seed," is blessed with many children, being populated with young married folks owning their own homes. A free Baby Clinic is held every week in the Y. W. C. A. and baby carriages have the right of way on the sidewalks. Friday was given over to the politicians, "Politicians' Day." On such an occasion Kenmore is right at home. A large crowd of people were drawn from all over the county. District Attorney Guy B. Moore, and Hon. James M. Mead, Member of Congress were the speakers of the day.

Saturday, the closing day, brought the celebration to a grand climax. A wonderful pageant "The Past, Present, and Future of Kenmore" in which was featured the history and community spirit with elaborate floats, together with various societies and organizations made a sight well worth the time, effort and money expended.

The celebration drew wide attention to the growth and advantages of Kenmore as a desirable residential section. It was a big success from every standpoint and reflected great credit on the various committees as a reward for their arduous work. "Kenmore, Let's Go" was the slogan. The Village appropriated \$1000 for advertising. 20,000 copies of an elaborate and artistic booklet were distributed. Frank C. Moore was the chairman of the general committee; Walter Ducker, vice chairman; J. Fred Moore, finance; A. R. Atkinson, speakers; Clare Rickert, athletics; E. J. W. Baldwin, concessions and Mrs. Jessie E. Webster, chairman ladies' day.

KENMORE'S GROWTH

In April, 1924, 225 dwellings were under construction, and 79 families moved into new homes. During the year 348 permits for new dwellings were issued; 263 gas meters were installed. A total of 514 dwellings were completed in 1924.

The assessed valuation of village property was \$7,800,00, and in 1925 had increased to \$10,000,000. Robert M. Cramer one of Kenmore's pioneer home builders and an active leader in the Good Government party died in Penn Yan, N. Y., June 2nd, 1924. The village budget for 1924 was \$137,060.88.

CHAPTER SEVEN

The Present Outlook

1925 - 1926

One year from the time when the "Midway" was held on Westgate Avenue, during "Jubilee" week, and the street did not have a house built upon it, there were forty completed, up-to-date dwellings. The northwest corner lot on Delaware Avenue, which at one time was sold for \$5000, now had a valuation of \$30,000. During April 103 families moved into the village.

DELAWARE AVENUE TO BE WIDENED

During December the Village and Town Boards united under the State Boulevard Act to widen Delaware Avenue, inside the village five feet on each side, and outside the village ten feet on each side. The low bidder for the improvement was Fred W. Knickenburg of Buffalo, at \$195,800. It is estimated that 9,000 automobiles and trucks pass on Delaware Avenue every day. Uniform spun concrete lamp posts and pre-cast curbing will be included. When completed Delaware Avenue will be one of the finest streets in any village in the state.

THE KENMORE THEATRE

The Kenmore Theatre was built during the year 1925 and opened January 30th, 1926. The building fronts on Delaware Avenue, from Landers Road to Chapel Road. It contains 16 stores, a large hall, and bowling alleys. The theatre proper seats 1600 people and is owned and controlled by Kenmore men, costing \$300,000. The people of Kenmore now have one of the finest motion picture palaces in the state.

POPULATION

Careful computation at the close of 1925 showed that Kenmore had a population of 8,500 people, and was the largest village in Western New York. The population doubled in five years, 1920-1925. The growth in population since 1900 is as follows: 1905—506, 1910—1020, 1915—1700, 1920—3160, 1925—8,500.

BUILDING RECORD

Eight hundred sixteen new families moved into Kenmore in 1925. The total number of building permits issued during the year was 991, including 760 dwellings, 209 garages, ten stores, five stores and apartments, one bank, two churches, two apartment houses, and one laundry. The total increased valuation will be \$3,306,720. Only 26 families moved out of the village.

THE WATER PROBLEM

"No question is ever settled until it is settled right" is an old time saying. In Kenmore it harks back to the "Village Pump" in 1889. The latest solution to the vexing question was suggested by H. F. Huy, general manager of the Western New York Water Company which supplies Kenmore and the Town of Tonawanda. "What the Village of Kenmore needs, and needs badly," says Mr. Huy, "is a storage tank of half a million gallons capacity, to store water for emergency use at fires and during the lawn sprinkling hours during the summer." Such a tank is now being erected. This company obtains its water supply from Lake Erie, at Woodlawn, N. Y., about eight miles south of the pumping station of the City of Buffalo. Its two intake mains extend out into the lake about one mile, where a bountiful supply of pure and wholesome water is obtained. From Woodlawn the water supply is pumped to a 10,000,000 gallon, concrete lined reservoir in the Hamburg hills, from which point it is distributed by gravity throughout the entire territory supplied by the water company, through a piping system consisting of approximately two hundred miles of mains, 66% of which are 8-inch or larger in diameter. At Depew, N. Y., a second pumping station is maintained, with a reservoir in connection therewith to increase the pressure to supply Kenmore and other villages in the Company's territory. A contract was let in February 1926 by the Company for the construction of a million-gallon storage tank at Cheektowaga, N. Y., which will be completed about July 1st, 1926. It is quite probable that this will solve Kenmore's water problem for many years to come.

KENMORE RECORD

With the issue of February 6, 1926, the Kenmore Record began its eleventh year of publication.

The paper was first issued in four-page, five column form. Ten weeks later the size was enlarged to six column, and later

to eight pages, then to a seven column page, its present form. Regular editions of the paper now contain 16 pages. The circulation each week reaches nearly 3000 copies.

The policy of the paper as the exponent of village and town news accounts for the rapid growth of the paper. The special features of school news, church, and society doings, and independent political attitude commend it to our citizenry.

DEATH OF PROMINENT PEOPLE

Lewis E. Burritt, one of Kenmore's best known and estimable citizens died on February 8th, 1925. Mr. Burritt was the receiver of taxes and assessments. He was also a prominent Freemason, and Christian Scientist. Clarence H. Arnold died November 22nd, 1925, which sad event was followed by the death of his wife on January 11th, 1926. Mr. Arnold was connected with the New York Telephone Company. In politics he was a Democrat. Mrs. Arnold was a member of the D. A. R. also active in church work, and was for a time connected with the Kenmore Public Library. The community suffered a distinct loss in the departure of these well known people who identified themselves with the welfare of Kenmore.

The First National Bank building at the corner of Delaware Avenue and Lincoln Boulevard was erected during the year 1925.

Dr. Jesse R. Harris, heretofore referred to as "Ralph Harris" who drilled the "Kenmore Cadets" in 1892, died in Niagara Falls, N. Y., February 6th. He was a retired colonel of the United States army. His mother Mrs. Alice M. Harris still lives among us, one of the earliest pioneers in Kenmore.

REALTORS' DAY

Wednesday, February 10th, 1926, was "Kenmore Day" for the Buffalo Real Estate Board at a luncheon held in the Y. W. C. A. "Know your Kenmore, for it offers sound and constantly increasing real estate investments."

PARACHUTE INVENTOR

Leslie L. Irvin a Kenmore parachute inventor whose airplane gracefully flies over our village and has grown familiar to our citizens, sailed for England the last of January on a mission to establish factories in England for the manufacture of 'chutes. His program will keep him abroad during a part of several years.

MASONIC LODGE

On Sunday morning February 14th, 1926, sod was turned for the new Masonic Temple on Delaware road, just north of the High School. Willard O. Tower, Master of the Master Builder Lodge No. 911 F. & A. M. presided and turned the first spade of earth. Frederick W. Claus, president of the temple association presented the spade to Mr. Tower. The emblem will undoubtedly become a valued souvenir. Chaplain Fred'k S. Parkhurst offered the prayer. Each one of the directors and members of the building committee turned a spadeful of earth. The temple will face Delaware avenue through Chapel Road having a fine location. The building will cost about \$70,444 and will be of light buff brick with stone trimming and will be fire proof. In dimension it will be 95 feet front and 155 feet long containing rooms for all lodge purposes and will be an ornament to the village. The corner stone was laid with impressive ceremonies by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York on Saturday, April 10th, William A. Rowan of Nyack, N. Y., Grand Master.

NEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An important event in the history of our village took place on Sunday, February 14th, 1926, when the new Presbyterian Church was dedicated. Probably the largest assembly of people ever gathered together in our village for a special occasion thronged the auditorium and balcony which together seat 1100 people, chairs also were requisite to seat all who came. The Rev. Arnold W. Fisser, Ph. D., D. D., professor of church history in the Bloomfield Theological Seminary, Bloomfield, N. J. delivered the dedicatory sermon. The Rev. Dr. F. Hyatt Smith a former pastor, now retired and living in Williamsville, N. Y., gave the address in the evening. On Washington's Birthday the spacious edifice was again thronged at 3 P. M. and 8 P. M. to hear the famous evangelist "Billy" Sunday. At the same hour in the evening about 900 people attended a play given under the auspices of the Brounshidle Post, American Legion, in the high school auditorium and a large attendance was enjoyed at the Kenmore Theatre impressing our citizens with Kenmore's rapid growth in population.

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

A caucus of the affiliated Republican voters of the village was called by John C. Hider general committeeman for Feb-

ruary 20th, at which nominations were made for the offices of village president, two trustees, and police justice. Following the caucus the executive committee designated for these offices Roy R. Brockett, president; Charles M. Epes and Albert A. Beutter, trustees; Charles L. Titus, judge. Trustees Willis H. Hall and Charles J. J. Seaman who were denied re-nomination by the committee announced themselves candidates for nomination before the caucus and were supported by a large number of persons. Following this announcement and getting the drift of public sentiment Mr. Epes and Mr. Dearing withdrew from the contest before the caucus. The result of the caucus was as follows: Roy R. Brockett, president; Willis H. Hall, trustee; Charles J. J. Seaman, trustee; Charles L. Titus, justice of the peace. The vote was as follows: For president, Brockett 509, Charles C. Dearing 2; for trustee, Hall 458, Seaman 400, Beutter 209; for justice, Titus 470, Charles H. Pratt 1, William Loncto 1. The result was a re-nomination of Brockett, Hall, Seaman and Titus. Harry A. Epsten circulated a petition and placed his name before the people for justice at the election held March 16th and later withdrew from the field. Mr. Beutter remained as a candidate for trustee supported by the Civic Committee.

NEW TOWN HALL

The proposition made by the Milton J. Brounshidle Post of the American Legion during the year 1925, to build a town memorial hall to combine public offices and a meeting place for the Post was again revived and favored by the town and village officials. The suggestion was made that the village sell the present fire hall property and use the proceeds to help defray the cost of the building. The General Municipal law authorizes the issue of bonds for such purposes.

ANNEXATION

The annexation question like Banquo's ghost in Macbeth will not "down." In 1894 annexation was one of the live questions in Kenmore and had the support of the Kenmore Business Mens' Association. At that time a Buffalo newspaper said "Kenmore should be a part of Buffalo. The result is inevitable." Now, thirty-two years later, both the village board and the town board are emphatically opposed to the project, a bill having recently been introduced in the legislature by a Buffalo member of that body. The reasons favoring annexation in 1894 were the likelihood of getting better sewer-

age, water, light, fire protection, and pavements which the infant village badly needed at that time and did not have the taxable property to pay for them. Now the village has these advantages and considers itself in a better condition financially and politically than Buffalo; better able to manage its own affairs as a rapidly growing community of eight thousand souls. It may be "inevitable" that some day we will become a part of greater Buffalo, nevertheless all forces are united to prevent such a consummation at this time. The community spirit has been strong from the beginning in Kenmore and would be destroyed by annexation.

VILLAGE BUDGET

As an interesting comparison in growth, Kenmore budget in 1915 was \$25,761.09, in 1926 \$258,061.63 and the tax rate a little over \$16.00 per thousand. The monies received and disbursed during 1925 by the receiver of taxes and assessments was \$2,131,924.75. The tentative village budget for the year 1926 was \$258,061.63, or \$50,000.00 greater than in 1925. Eighty-four new families moved into Kenmore during January and February 1926 and building permits keep up a steady advance.

VILLAGE ELECTION

The second largest vote in the history of the village was cast at the village election held March 16th, 1926, at which 1196 people voted. The entire republican ticket was re-elected. Roy R. Brockett, President; Willis H. Hall and Charles J. J. Seaman, Trustees; Charles L. Titus, Police Justice. On March 22nd the following officials were re-appointed: Village Clerk, Walter Ducker; Village Engineer, Vernon Eager; Village Attorneys, Blackmon & Moore; Superintendent Public Works, Henry Schunk; Electrical Engineer, Arthur P. H. Saul; Chief of Police, Clarence Yochum; Police Officers, Alfred W. Bleyle, Harry D. Brounshidle, Miner Wildey, Frank V. Schultz, Thomas DeGuehrey, Edward Schultz, Archie B. Kirkwood, W. Carlisle Johnson. Special Officers: Arthur Burke, Thomas Costello, Bruce Miller, Victor F. Moreland Charles Weiss, Walter Ducker. Constables: John Yochum, Henry Schunk, Albert Drews. Special Fire Police: (Members of the American Legion, Brounshidle Post) Robert K. House, Leonard Sipperley, Ray Grant, O. C. Keener, W. T. Burlingame, Dr. Richard R. Holbrook.

POST OFFICE

In response to local agitation, particularly through the taxpayers association, the Department at Washington considered the proposal and decided to establish a station to be known as the Kenmore Station. Sealed proposals for suitable quarters were called for up to April 3rd, the lease to be for five to ten years and floor space to be 800 square feet. Carrier service will still be from Hertel Station, Buffalo, but the increasing population and expanding territory occupied by homes and business concerns will undoubtedly bring carrier service from our own Station.

WORLD FAMOUS VISITOR

Tuesday, March, 30th, the world famous, deaf-blind woman Helen Keller, addressed a large audience in the Kenmore High School auditorium. She was accompanied and assisted by her life-long friend and teacher Anne Sullivan Macy, and Edwin Grasse, the eminent blind violinist. Mr. Frank C. Densberger, Superintendent of Schools presided and Miss Katherine L. Busch at the piano. The arrangements were under the supervision of the Kenmore Committee of the American Foundation for the Blind.

BASKETBALL

The Kenmore High School basketball team came within two points of winning the State Championship in the elimination contest at Syracuse, N. Y., March 25th—27th. Of the final game, Carl Burkhardt, physical director of the Buffalo Public Schools said, "The most wonderful basketball ever played by a High School team in a state tournament." Several hundred citizens went to see the contest and cheer on the combatants. No event of recent years so stirred the village which was advertised by this competition in athletics. The team was honored by the State Athletic Association with a silver cup inscribed "Runner-up, Public High School Basketball Championship 1926."

NECROLOGY

The Rev. Charles L. Rhoades died March 31st. Born May 13th, 1849, he was a practicing lawyer before entering the ministry. During his later years he lived a retired life in Kenmore. Mrs. Emily M. Russell, wife of Alfred Russell, vice president of the Rowland Corporation, died on March 26th, Mrs. Russell had lived in Kenmore for many years and was a

prominent member of the Eastern Star Lodge. Mrs. Louis Myers who had lived in Kenmore for 18 years died on March 26th. Mrs. Emma C. McClelland, wife of Dr. F. E. McClelland died March 26th, after a brief illness leaving four small children. M. Frank Anderson, a resident of Kenmore for 16 years died on March 27th, aged 79 years. Mr. Anderson was at one time special police officer but was living a retired life.

TAX RATE FOR 1926

The village tax rate officially adopted for the year 1926 was fixed at \$16.87 per thousand, a reduction of \$2.13 per thousand from the 1925 rate. This was brought about by the adoption of the Town assessment roll, the increased valuation of new buildings constructed in 1925, and the increased valuation of vacant property on vacant streets. The budget for the year 1926 totals \$258,061.62. It is thought that the peak of expenditures in the village has been reached, and that from now on the tax rate should grow less, as the improved streets are built up.

CONTINUED GROWTH

During March, 1926, fifty-one new families moved into the village and only two families moved out, a gain of forty-nine families, which means a gain of about two hundred in population. Two hundred and fifty houses are in course of construction.

GOLDEN WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. James M. Love celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage on Saturday, April 24. Mr. Love is living in retirement after serving fifty-one years as a machinist. He came to Kenmore in the late 90's and has seen the growth of the village since it was but a small hamlet.

Kenmore's quota in the Community Fund Drive was \$3,806. Kenmore Y. W. C. A. will receive \$6,000 of the fund and the Wheel Chair Home \$26,261.

BOYS' WEEK

Harking back to the early 90's when First Lieutenant Jesse R. Harris, Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A., organized and drilled the "Kenmore Cadets," the people of Kenmore have believed that the formation of character in youth is the most important, valuable, and lasting work that can be done for the upbuilding of a community. During our entire history we have devoted

much time and thought to this end.

One of the notable events of the year was the observance of Boys' Week May 2nd—9th. The local observance was sponsored by the Kenmore Rotary Club in co-operation with the churches, schools, and various civic organizations. Each day of the week was filled with exercises and entertainments calculated to inform, instruct and entertain the large number of boys in the community. Frank C. Moore, chairman, William Harper, Judge E. A. Jones and Dr. W. H. Jones arranged for the celebration. Boys took charge of the service in the Church of the Advent, Episcopal, in everything but the sermon. They presided at the regular Rotary Club, Village Board, Board of Education and Town Board, astonishing their elders with ability and expression of ideas on matters of public interest. It was valuable training in citizenship.

KENMORE'S GROWTH

During April 118 new families moved into the village which is an advance over the same period in 1925. Many houses are in process of erection showing that there will be no diminishing in the rapid growth of the village.

DEATH OF OLD RESIDENT

Frank A. Bussey who had been in the employ of the American Radiator Company for 32 years and a resident of Kenmore for 19 years died on May 5th. With his wife Mrs. Grace G. S. Bussey, they were prominent in church work and social functions.

The issue of the Kenmore Record for Thursday, April 29th was 2600 copies of 16 pages showing a remarkable growth in circulation in the past few years and warrants a semi-weekly edition. The Record serves the town of Tonawanda, Kenilworth, Ellwood, Riverside besides the village of Kenmore featuring the schools and various organizations in the territory, also officially represents the village and town administration.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

Early in the spring of 1922 Matthew D. Young, C. D. Blair, Edward T. Danahy, Harold V. Cook and Charles D. Warren conceived the idea of organizing a National Bank in Kenmore. The prepared plans were approved by the Comptroller of Currency at Washington. The original capital was \$65,000. Business was first transacted in the brick block corner of Delaware Avenue and Warren Avenue, in what was formerly

a grocery store. The doors were opened May 27th, 1922. In the fall of 1924 the bank took over the entire ground floor of the building, so rapidly did the business increase. Plans for a new bank building were drawn up in 1925. On Saturday, May 15th, the new edifice was ready for occupancy and formally opened to the public. Situate at the corner of Delaware Avenue and Lincoln Boulevard, and in architectural design and interior finish nothing was left to be desired. In location and appearance any city might be proud of such a financial institution which demonstrates the ability and spirit of Kenmore men.

FOR CHARITY

The annual drive for the United Charities subscription during the first week in May went over the quota of \$3,311. Pledges amounting to \$3,695 were received. While this was properly a city of Buffalo movement, yet the Wheel Chair Home, Y. W. C. A. and Boy Scouts of Kenmore will receive more than this amount from the total fund.

AUTOMOBILE TRAGEDY

The very unusual occurrence of two double funerals on following days, May 26th and 27th greatly impressed the people with the dangers of automobile travel. The instant death of Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Moffett and Mr. and Mrs. Willis G. Osmansky was the result of a grade crossing accident on Sunday May 23rd as they were turning from the River Road into the Ward Road at the New York Central Railroad crossing. Only the daughter Miss Kathryn Moffett who was one of the party returning from Niagara Falls survived the crash, being seriously injured. A fifth resident of the village Miss Kathleen Fairbank was killed in an automobile accident while returning from Lockport on May 21st. Two young men were also killed in the same accident. The danger of sudden death, unless extreme caution is exercised, is apparent to all who use the streets.

MEMORIAL DAY

The observance of Memorial Day on Monday May 31st was on a larger scale than ever before in Kenmore. As the fleeting years remove us farther away from the great World War it is evident that "Lest We Forget" is sinking deeper and deeper into the consciousness of the people. The American Legion Post had charge of the parade and public exercises which in

every way reflected the patriotism and unselfishness of its members as they honored the memory of the American soldiers and sailors.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS

At the close of the school year tabulated reports are published showing that it costs about \$70 annually for each child receiving an education in our village. A steadily increasing enrollment marks the increasing population. High standards and efficient administration of schools is an attraction to those with children seeking homes in Kenmore. Admirable location, school advantages, church influence, enterprising realtors and builders, and clean village government all insure a wonderful future growth of our coming city.

The remarkable growth of the Kenmore Public Library is also a striking evidence of far reaching import in the character of our citizenship. A gain of 200 borrowers during the year and the class of books borrowed indicates a healthy discernment on the part of the inhabitants. A good library benefits all the people of the community.

With all these good influences which promote intelligence and enrich life, the social, business, religious and educational life of our village is a credit and example. A people who care nothing for these things will never prosper, but with them intelligent progress and prosperity is assured.

This brings us to the close of the 37th year of Kenmore's settlement, and the 27th year of incorporated existence. The year 1926 marks the 150th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, by which the Province of New York became a free state. We are a constituent part of the great commonwealth, which on July 9th, 1776, in Provincial Convention assembled in New York city unanimously approved the Declaration. Kenmore at that time, like nearly all western New York, was uninhabited, save by Indian tribes roaming the forests and walking the trails along the Niagara frontier, disputing the advance of the white man. A few descendents of these aborigines remain within our state and have appeared in Kenmore on different occasions, clad in native costume and reciting in song and story the manners and customs of their ancestors, thus linking the past with the present. History is obscured by time. We are fortunate in being able to record the settlement, growth and progress of our village, which, in another 150 years, A. D. 2076, will convey to the readers of

that future day, events and conditions which took place and existed in what is now a modern village in the Empire State at the beginning of the 20th century. It requires neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet to forecast the future of Kenmore. It will become a part of a great municipality reaching from Buffalo to Niagara Falls. Probably a "Tube" will convey travelers between these points in thirty minutes, while those who prefer the air route will make the trip in half that time. The few remaining farm lands in the Tonawandas that are not already sub-divided will be covered with homes, places of business, and industrial plants. Broad avenues and beautiful parks will adorn all this section. Let us hope that the sun will then shine on a united nation, a peace-loving people, righteous, just, loyal and true.

**METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, REV. C. H. GALL,
PASTOR**

The Kenmore Methodist Episcopal Church was organized February 13th, 1891 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Myron A. Phelps, corner of Delaware Avenue and Tremaine Avenue. About 50 people formed the first society. Services were held in the homes of the people until June of the same year, when through the kindness of George A. Sanborn a good sized room was provided in a store on West Kenmore Avenue. This place proving too small, the congregation moved into the old "White House" on East Kenmore Avenue, where the society remained until the basement of the present church was ready for occupancy. The first pastor was Frederick Dark, a young student who had charge of the services during the summer of 1891. On the 13th day of June 1892 ground was broken for the new edifice. The corner stone was laid by the Rev. J. E. Williams, Presiding Elder of Buffalo District. On June 4th, 1893, the church was dedicated by the Rev. Dr. Sanford Hunt of New York. The following pastors succeeded Mr. Dark: Rev. Earl D. Shepard, 1892. Rev. Joseph Duxbury, 1893. In October 1893 Rev. Phineas T. Lynn took charge and remained for five years. Rev. E. C. Swartz was then appointed and remained until 1901. He was followed by Rev. Peter A. McDonald, who accepted a call to the Park Presbyterian Church, Buffalo, in January 1902 and was followed by Rev. Dr. T. H. Orme. Rev. H. H. Downey was pastor from October 1905 to October 1907. Rev. W. R. Brown took charge in 1908 and remained until 1912. The Rev. Dr. Fred'k S. Parkhurst

was appointed in October 1912 and closed his pastorate taking a "Retired Relation" in October 1916. Rev. H. A. Reed had charge from 1916 to 1918. Rev. A. Partington was the pastor from 1918 to 1922. The Rev. W. Mortimer Heisler was appointed in October 1922 remaining until 1924. The Rev. C. H. Gall became the pastor in October 1924 and is the present incumbent. The society has purchased a site on Old Delaware Road and expect soon to erect a larger and more modern structure. *H H 65.*

KENMORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The history of the Kenmore Presbyterian Church is closely linked with the growth and life of Kenmore. In 1889 the Westminster Presbyterian Church of Buffalo was supporting a mission at the corner of Delaware Avenue and Hertel Avenue, Buffalo, which was attended by the few Presbyterians then living in Kenmore. Mr. L. P. A. Eberhardt gave the site and old church building which cost \$2000 and \$11,000 respectively to the Westminster society on condition that they would contribute one-half of the cost of maintenance which was accepted. Rev. George H. Marsh was the first regular pastor and served the church from December 4th, 1894 to February 2nd, 1897. Rev. L. Hamilton was the next pastor and died in 1899. Following his decease a call was extended to his son Rev. Charles Hamilton who was preaching in Manchester, Iowa who accepted and served the society for eight years and then went as a missionary to the Philippines. In 1907 the Rev. W. S. Carter was called to the pastorate from Rochester, N. Y., Mr. Carter resigned in November, 1912. The "Gym" hall was built by Mr. Eberhardt in 1907 at a cost of \$26,000. In 1911 the church was raised off its stone piers and a basement containing dining rooms, kitchen, primary and kindergarten rooms were added. The main auditorium was improved and a new organ installed, also choir loft and balcony. The Rev. F. Hyatt Smith assumed charge in 1912 and remained ten years and retired to live in Williamsville, N. Y. During his pastorate the membership doubled and numbered 473. The Rev. John Richelsen of Niagara Falls, N. Y. was called in September, 1923. A campaign for members brought the membership to 562 in January, 1924. Plans were adopted in March 1924 for the present structure at an estimated cost of \$65,000 and has sittings for 2000. The membership is 1,126.

SAINT PAUL'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH AND PARISH

The first priest who said Mass in what is now called Kenmore was the Venerable John Nepomucene Neumann, who died as Bishop of Philadelphia, Pa., in 1860. After Venerable Neumann had been ordained a priest by Bishop Dubois of New York, he came to this territory in 1836. He built a log chapel in 1836 on the same spot where the Chapel of St. John the Baptist now stands, commonly called North Bush Chapel. From here he took care of many surrounding missions, above all, of the few scattered Catholic families in our territory. Later on, priests from Williamsville and Tonawanda took care of these families. About 1868, the present St. John's Chapel was erected and Mass celebrated there. A cemetery was also founded there. For many years subsequently the Catholic families attended St. Joseph's Church, Main Street, Buffalo, also St. Francis Xavier's Church, Black Rock.

St. Paul's Parish proper was established in 1897 by Bishop J. E. Quigley. In 1897 the two dozen Catholic families had obtained permission from Bishop Quigley to build a Church of their own, the late Frank Mang donating a building lot on Delaware Avenue. Soon after the Jesuit Fathers in charge of St. Michael's Church, Buffalo, took charge of St. Paul's, Rev. Fathers Nelles, Pfeil, Sturm, Miller, Leonard and Gisler acting as pastors successively.

January 6, 1899, a two story building of modest dimensions was completed and dedicated as St. Paul's Parochial School. It first stood on the spot of the present garage and being of frame construction was later on moved to the rear of the Church and connected with it. In 1900 the Franciscan Sisters from Sacred Heart Academy, Buffalo, took charge as teachers. They lived in a room in the school building and in the church basement.

The history of St. Paul's Church as a regular diocesan parish opens in April 1909, when Bishop Charles Henry Colton appointed the Rev. Henry B. Laudenschmidt as the first resident pastor of St. Paul's. New building lots were purchased by Father Laudenschmidt. In 1909-1910, he built the present brick rectory. At that time the parish comprised about 60 families. In April, 1914, Bishop Colton appointed the Rev. Adam Scheidel to succeed Father Laudenschmidt. A steady growth of the parish commenced about that time. When the next pastor, Rev. Ferdinand A. Bank was appointed by Rt. Rev. Bishop

Turner, in May, 1920, the parish numbered about 130 families. Meanwhile the Franciscan Sisters had left and Father Scheidel had secured lay teachers for the school but had made arrangements with the Sisters of St. Mary of Namour, of St. Mary's Seminary, Buffalo, to take charge of the school in the fall of 1920.

Since August 1920 a third Mass was added to the regular Sunday services, one of the Rev. Jesuit Fathers of Canisius College officiating. When the Sisters of St. Mary, two Sisters and a lay teacher, took charge of the school, there were about 60 children attending.

In the fall of 1921 the interior of the Church was newly frescoed and the seating capacity of the church pews was nearly doubled by adding new pews. Three new building lots were purchased in the fall of 1922, rounding out the church property to 452 feet by 143 feet. In 1923, especially, new families began to move into the parish and in May of the same year Rev. Francis Schubert was appointed as first assistant pastor and a fourth Mass was added to the regular Sunday services. On June 17, 1923, the Parish celebrated its 25th anniversary. Meanwhile the erection of a suitable new parochial school became a necessity. Three Sisters were teaching about 110 pupils in the little frame school. With the approval of the Bishop in the spring of 1924, the architects Bley and Lyman were authorized to draw plans for a school. On July 26th ground was broken, on October 5, the corner stone was laid by the pastor Father Bank, assisted by Rev. E. M. Deck and Rev. F. Schubert. In October 1924 Bishop Turner appointed Rev. Eugene H. Selbert as assistant in the place of Father Schubert. In December of the same year, two more building lots, adjacent to the school site on Victoria Boulevard were purchased together with a frame house with lot making the present premises all in all about 600 by 150 feet.

On Sunday, September 13th, Rt. Rev. Bishop Turner dedicated the new school, many priests being present and the Knights of St. John turned out for the occasion. The following day, September 14th, school studies commenced, 5 class rooms had to be used for 190 pupils. On the same day, the Sisters of St. Mary began to use the house at 55 Victoria Boulevard, purchased last winter, as a convent. On December 28th, Bishop Turner transferred Rev. E. Selbert to the New Cathedral and appointed Rev. Joseph A. Bach of St. Mary's,

Olean, N. Y., assistant at St. Paul's Church.

In the new St. Paul's school, Kenmore has an edifice which is an architectural object of beauty being of Gothic-English architecture and constructed of rough textured gray brick with stone strimmings. The building is fire proofed throughout.

HISTORY OF KENMORE BAPTIST CHURCH

In the fall of 1910 a few Baptists living in this vicinity met, discussed, planned and finally organized the Kenmore Baptist Church. For several weeks meetings were held in the home of Mr. E. W. Anderson in Villa Avenue. Then a building, which had been a school was bought, remodeled and furnished and there the church endeavored for six years to do the Lord's work. This first building was on Ramsdell Street, (now a dwelling, No. 29, remodeled after a fire.)

For about one year the church was a mission church, during which time Buffalo and Tonawanda pastors helped in its maintenance. In the fall of 1911 it was thought advisable to organize a regular church. An organization council was called and under the leadership of Rev. R. J. Roberts were duly organized into the Kenmore Baptist Church with a membership of 26.

In the next few years growth was slow but steady. It was soon found that it would be necessary to find larger and more favorably located quarters. The trustees after careful consideration recommended the purchase of the lot at the corner of Delaware Road and Cornell Avenue. At once plans were drawn for a building. In June 1916 the corner stone was laid and in April 1917 the church was dedicated.

Never has the growth been spectacular, but always constant. Consequently in 1925 it was found necessary to remodel and enlarge the building. With a membership of 227 and a Sunday school of 359 the new building was begun in May 1925 and it was dedicated on November 8, 1925. The new building will seat about 500 and has modern Sunday school equipment. A new Viner pipe organ has been installed. Rev. R. J. Roberts served as pastor for seven years. After his resignation the church had several supplies, among them Rev. A. R. Spencer, for about a year. Rev. Carl Rasmusen was called as pastor October, 1919, and died in the early spring of 1920. Rev. Spencer again supplied until September 1920, when Rev. R. A. Fuller assumed the pastoral duties.

He has served now for over five years.

From the very beginning Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Dixon of Buffalo have been very helpful in financial and other ways.

CHURCH OF THE ADVENT, EPISCOPAL

During the month of September 1904 the Brotherhood of St. Andrew of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Buffalo, N. Y. under Rev. Thomas B. Berry, D. D.; began holding services of the Episcopal Church in Kenmore. On November 6th, 1904, the Rt. Rev. W. D. Walker, D. D.; visited the Mission with twenty communicants in attendance. In December, 1904, the Mission was organized under the direction of Dr. Berry. The following officers were appointed: Warden, W. H. Beck; Treasurer, Bertram Ralph; Secretary, Fred J. Lynch; welfare helpers, G. W. Keese, R. A. Toms, G. W. Warren, C. B. Brooks, J. C. Hider. The corporate name "Mission of the Advent" was adopted. Services were first held in the homes of the members. A church school was organized with Mr. F. Lynch, Superintendent.

On June 24th, 1906, the village board gave free use of the Village Hall for church services. The organization advanced and a gift of sacred vessels was made by the Woman's Guild of the Church of the Good Shepherd as a memorial for Mrs. William Beck.

The Bishop of the Diocese, the Rt. Rev. W. D. Walker, D. D.; confirmed the first class of five on June 28th, 1906.

The Rev. H. W. Gaviller of All Saints Church, Buffalo, was made the Missionary-in-Charge in 1908, spending much time in developing the Mission. Title to a lot was secured at the corner of LaSalle Avenue and Eugene Avenue. A building was erected and formally opened by Bishop Walker on Sunday June 18th, 1911.

The Mission grew rapidly and the Rev. Jerome Kates was called in the spring of 1914. Mr. Kates broadened and strengthened the work of the church in Kenmore. In 1916 he resigned to take up labor in a large field.

The Rev. Edward Cosbey filled the vacancy and greatly developed the organizations of the church during a pastorate of three years. Rev. Cosbey resigned in 1919 seeking a larger field of labor.

In 1920 the society purchased a rectory at No. 70 Tremaine Avenue and the Vestry called the Rev. J. E. Darling to the vacant charge. Rev. Mr. Darling came in 1920 and the church

was incorporated in July. The property at LaSalle Avenue and Eugene Avenue was sold and a site purchased on Delaware Road on which a Parish House was erected and opened in December 1923, being the first unit of a splendid plant which when completed will have also a church and rectory. The church is centrally located as to population, commodious, and ornamental. With the increasing number of people who are coming to the parish and a splendid church school, combined with strong organizations, the church bids fair to hold a worthy place in the community. The present Rector is the Rev. John L. Short.

PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHAPEL, DELAWARE AND CHAPEL ROADS

In the fall of 1920 the Reverend H. Plehn of Nazareth Lutheran Church, Skillen and Wiley Streets, Buffalo, began holding services in Village Hall. The following October the Reverend F. J. Muhlhauser, who is in charge at present, was called to take over the work. A congregation was organized. Services were continued in Village Hall. In the fall of 1922 the present church site, on the north-west corner of Delaware and Chapel roads (the latter was then known as Jefferson Street) was purchased for \$7,382. In June, 1924, ground was broken for the Chapel in which the congregation is now worshipping, and the building was completed and dedicated in February, 1925. The cost of the same was \$27,000. The congregation, which is prospering with Kenmore, is affiliated with the Synodical Conference of the Lutheran Church of America.

KENMORE EVANGELICAL CHURCH, REV. R. H. ROSCHE, PASTOR

Services in the Village Hall.

Sunday school 9:00 A. M.

Preaching service 10:30 A. M.

After meeting as a Sunday school for a few months in the Village Hall, a survey of the village was made and it was decided to begin meetings as a congregation. The first meeting held September 13th, 1925, was attended by fifty people. The work was begun by the Evangelical Union of Buffalo and was taken over by the Board of Home Missions of the Evangelical Church. On Thursday evening December 10th, 1925, the church was organized in response to a petition signed by 27 men and women of Kenmore. A constitution was adopted and a church council elected to take effect January 1st, 1926,

composed of the following members: Frank Briggs, Mrs. George Brunner, George Fornoff, Edward Huebner, Mrs. George Norwig and Fred Zaehringer. The church proposes to build a church edifice in the near future.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST, MYRON AND EAST HAZELTINE AVENUES

Services Sunday 10:30 A. M. and 3 P. M.

Testimonial meeting, Wednesday 8:00 P. M.

Reading room open Monday and Friday 7—9 P. M. Tuesday and Thursday 3—5 P. M.

Through the efforts of a few residents of the village, Christian Science services were first held regularly in Kenmore in the spring of 1919. These were conducted by Christian Science Society in Kenmore, which had been organized a little while previously. The large room on the second floor of the Village Hall was made available for the services through the courtesy of the Village Board.

Within the next two years the attendance grew to such an extent that the members of the Society felt the time had come to erect a suitable church edifice to accommodate the constantly increasing body of students of Christian Science. Accordingly, the site at the northeast corner of East Hazeltine and Myron Avenues was chosen and purchased early in 1921.

Plans for the building having been prepared by Harold J. Cook, Architect, ground was broken in October, 1921. The cornerstone was laid shortly thereafter in the presence of the two Readers, the Board of Trustees and the Building Committee.

On Easter Sunday, 1922, the building was ready for occupancy. A morning, afternoon and evening service were held, at each of which the auditorium seating 400 was well filled. Since then there has been no interruption in the services on Sunday or Wednesday evening.

The affairs of the Church are managed by a Board of six Trustees, two of whom are elected annually for a term of three years. The First and Second Readers (who must be members of The Mother Church), are also elected by the membership, and serve a term of three years. Under the By-Laws of the Church, a Reader who has served a full term is not eligible for re-election. .

KENMORE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

When Kenmore was first settled in 1889 there was a small district school in what was called the Burlington district on Englewood Road in the township of Tonawanda which accommodated the children of that vicinity and a few from what is now Kenmore; others were obliged to walk or take the bus to No. 21 school on Hertel Avenue, Buffalo, which was overcrowded. In 1890 the number of children of school age in Kenmore numbered about 50. A meeting was held in the Burlington school house to discuss the question of a separate school for Kenmore at which 21 voters were present. Eleven voted in favor of the movement and ten against it. Meanwhile a school was held in the Sunday school rooms of the Presbyterian Church. Desks were provided and the pupils were instructed by Miss Frank Wilder of Pike, N. Y., Mr. William F. Squire circulated a petition for a separate building and 40 signed the same. In 1891 a public hearing was held in the office of Superintendent Emerson on this petition and the right was granted to build a school house in Kenmore. In 1892 a lot was purchased from L. P. A. Eberhardt for \$1,500 on Delaware Avenue and the Union Free School (afterward bought for the present Village Hall) was built. The first accident of any note in the newly settled village took place during its construction. Charles Hutt a carpenter fell from a scaffold breaking his right leg at the ankle. Mrs. Celia W. Marsh, wife of the pastor of the Presbyterian Church was the first principal of the new school in 1892. Mrs. Marsh was a college graduate and an inspiring teacher with high ideals. In changing from a district school to a Union Free School there was a long debate. The vote was 56 in favor of the motion, and 46 against. Five trustees were elected to form a Board of Education: For one year George H. Meyer, two years Hugo Westphal and A. H. Stephenson, three years Mrs. F. E. A. Zimmerman and John I. Keller. Mr. W. R. Atkinson was the sole trustee of the old district school. Several students of the new union school took the Regents' Examination in January 1893 at the Buffalo High School. Mrs. Marsh continued her services as Principal until 1895 when R. M. Baraces, a Buffalo lawyer and formerly a principal in Wyoming County took charge of the school. In 1896 the annual school meeting registered 88 voters. W. R. Atkinson was elected Trustee in 1896 and was instructed to open the school for a term of 40 weeks with one teacher. The amount of



Kenmore High School, erected in 1923-24, on Delaware Road.

money to be raised by taxation was \$1,700. Mr. Atkinson was elected to the office of Trustee without opposition from 1896 to 1901.

In March 1899 Mr. Baraces resigned and Miss Cora Phelps (now Mrs. A. M. Hall) filled the vacancy for some time when Mr. B. X. Shields was engaged as Principal. In 1902 William C. Uhrhan took charge of the rapidly growing school, holding the position until 1915. The school became overcrowded in 1909 and a new building became necessary. The corner stone was laid for what is now the old High School in 1910 and it was completed and occupied in 1911 for the Fall Term. The building cost \$50,000. In the Fall of 1915 Frank C. Densberger was chosen Principal. Enlargement was found necessary and in February 1916 additions were built on the north and south sides at an expense of \$46,000. The work was completed in 1917. There were now 30 teachers with an enrollment of 110 in the Senior High School, 110 Junior High, 443 1st and 6th grades, 100 Kindergarten, total enrollment 763

The new Junior-Senior High School on Delaware Road was erected by the Board of Education in 1924. Eugene Crow, President; William W. Whitelock, Frederick W. Kester, Emilie A. Linklater, Harold V. Cook, Andrew M. Carnes, Katherine B. Pinch; Charles D. Warren, Secretary; Frank C. Densberger, Superintendent of Schools; F. J. and W. A. Kidd, Architects.

The erection of the school was favorably voted on in 1922. Work was started July 27th, 1923. The building was completed November 1st, 1924, at a cost of \$495,000. The structure is of warm buff colored tapestry brick with grey stone trim and in architectural beauty equal to that found in any city. The auditorium seats over eleven hundred people. The school contains departments of Homemaking, Manual Training, Mechanical Drawing, Cafeteria, Gymnasium, Swimming, Library, Conservatory and Laboratories. A large athletic field with football, baseball, tennis courts and quarter-mile track is located back of the building. In no better way can the growth of Kenmore be expressed than by this large, modern school. Without doubt there is no single factor that has contributed to the growth of Kenmore more than its educational facilities.

STATE BANK OF KENMORE

The Story of Eleven Years' Business

Granted its charter by State of New York December 11th, 1914.

Opened for business December 18th, 1914.

Original paid-in Capital and Surplus \$30,000.00

Five of the original Board of Directors (which was seven in number) Messrs. Raymond E. Winfield, Chairman; Clarence C. Miller, President; Freelon Hunter, L. P. A. Eberhardt and Charles J. J. Seaman, are still serving as Directors.

Other members of the present board are:

Charles A. Scheeler, added in 1915.

Milton C. Guggenheimer, Frank X. Reuter and George F. Wallace, added in 1916.

J. Fred Moore, added in 1919.

William W. Whitelock, added in 1921.

Henry J. Ebling, John B. Scheidemantel, Charles Stephen and Arthur R. Atkinson, added in 1922.

Other active officers are:

Howard A. Inskip, who came to the bank as cashier in 1918 and assistant cashiers, Albert A. McMullen and John D. Hamilton, both of whom have been with the bank since 1923.

Working force has grown from two in 1914 to eighteen in 1926.

Capital, Surplus and Profits have increased from \$30,000 to nearly \$300,000.00—Deposits to over \$2,000,000.00 and Total Resources to about \$3,000,000.00.

Banking quarters have grown from one small room in 1914 to present spacious quarters.

January 1st, 1926 open accounts, 4137; deposits \$2,451,471.80; interest paid, \$232,328.14; Resources, \$3,415,491.33; net earnings, \$169,047.70; dividends paid \$94,875.00.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

Organized and opened for business May 27, 1922, occupying part of lower floor of building at 2833 Delaware Avenue. In fall of 1924, quarters enlarged by adding space in same building occupied by Kenmore Grocery. June 1925 began construction of modern, fire-proof banking house at corner Delaware Avenue and Lincoln Boulevard at cost of \$90,000.00. Occupied new building May 15, 1926.

	Deposits	Assets
May 27, 1922	\$ 96,176.87	\$ 177,426.87
May 27, 1923	387,789.01	576,652.81
May 27, 1924	667,075.98	807,641.84
May 27, 1925	922,690.72	1,139,741.33
April 12, 1926	1,730,833.13	1,957,854.94

OFFICERS

Matthew D. Young	President
Charles D. Warren	Vice President
Arthur R. Catlin	Cashier
Vernon L. Young	Assistant Cashier
Harold V. Cook	Counsel

DIRECTORS

Cecil D. Blair, Edward H. Boehringer, Harold V. Cook, Eugene Crow, Edward T. Danahy, Charles C. Dearing, Thomas W. Dickson, Frank C. Greutker, Ray H. Heiss, Dr. Eugene R. Linklater, Charles D. Warren, Dr. Walter J. M. Wurtz, Matthew D. Young.

The new home of the First National Bank of Kenmore with its central location, convenient arrangements, complete equipment and attractive appointments, reflects the substantial progress of the institution in its four years of successful service and indicates the way it keeps pace with Kenmore's growth and development, with which it is so closely identified.

TUESDAY CULTURE CLUB

Organized 1912, Western New York Federation 1918.

Regular meetings first and third Tuesday, October to May 2:30 P. M.

Motto: "Live up to the best that is in you."

Colors: White and Gold.

First Officers: President, Mrs. Wilbur T. Harris; Vice President, Mrs. Willis H. Hall; Secretary, Mrs. Henry Tremain; Treasurer, Miss Katherine L. Busch.

The following ladies have acted as president since organization: Mrs. Wilbur T. Harris, 1912—1918; Mrs. Charles J. J. Seaman, 1919—1920; Mrs. Frank C. Densberger, 1920—1922; Mrs. Frederick S. Parkhurst, 1923—1924; Mrs. Willis H. Hall, 1925—1926; Mrs. Orel L. Hershiser, 1926.

Annual election of officers first meeting in April.

Present Officers: Mrs. Orel L. Hershiser, President; Mrs. Joseph W. Hutchison, Vice President; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Joseph A. Dixon; Treasurer, Mrs. Frank C. Moore; Cor-

responding Secretary, Mrs. Frederick S. Parkhurst; Auditor, Mrs. Erwin M. Hooker; Historian, Mrs. Charles J. J. Seaman.

The club has thirty active members and eight honorary members.

Special Days: Club Birthday Party; Christmas Party; Guest Day; Club Luncheon; June Picnic.

WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION

The W. C. T. U. of Kenmore was organized March 8th, 1897, in the Presbyterian Church. The original officers were: President, Mrs. Dalgety; Vice President, Mrs. Jennie Van-Vleer; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Hattie H. Leonard; Superintendent Mothers' Meeting, Mrs. Frances Zimmerman. There were fourteen charter members.

The purpose of the organization is the unifying throughout the world the work of women in temperance and social reform. The badge is the white ribbon. The motto "For God and Home and Every Land." In 1913 the society erected and presented to the village a Drinking Fountain which is located at the village hall and was accepted by the president of the village, Matthew D. Young. During "Old Home Week" in the summer of 1924 the society won the first prize in a "Float Contest" called "Before and After Prohibition," by Mrs. W. H. Johnston, and the first prize "Floral Missions," by Mrs. Wittenmeyer. The membership is 125, and 30 honorary members. The society meets every third Thursday at 2:30 P. M. Mrs. William Robinson, 24 Ramsdell Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y., President; Mrs. Amy Neustadter, 104 Argonne Drive, Secretary. Telephone the President for the place of meeting.

KENMORE LODGE NO. 795 I. O. O. F.

Kenmore Lodge No. 795 Independent Order of Odd Fellows was instituted March 7th, 1913, with the following charter members: William B. Sirrett, William Harper, Delbert A. Phelps, Edmund Baloun, Henry A. Martin, Fred W. Eggleston, Bert G. Hitchcock, William Dicks, William Ewing.

The first officers were: N. G., William Harper; V. G., William Dicks; Recording Secretary, Fred W. Eggleston; Financial Secretary, Henry A. Martin; Treasurer, Delbert A. Phelps; R. S. N. G., William B. Sirrett; L. S. N. G., Bert G. Hitchcock; Chaplain, Edmund Baloun; Warden, William Ewing.

The first lodge rooms were located in the Hitchcock Hall located at the corner of Delaware Avenue and Euclid Avenue

in what was known as the Henry Block. The present Temple site was later acquired corner of Kenmore Avenue and Myron Avenue. The corner stone was laid in 1914. The membership is 133. The 107th anniversary of Oddfellowship in the United States was observed by the Lodge on April 26th, 1926, in the evening, Dr. Fred'k S. Parkhurst delivered the address.

The present officers are: N. G., Samuel McCarley; V. G., Louis Smith; Recording Secretary, Gordon P. Gilbert; Financial Secretary, William Thorn; Treasurer, George L. Hulslander; R. S. N. G., Thomas Osborne; L. S. N. G., A. J. Whittleton; R. S. V. G., Paul Condrell; L. S. V. G., Clifford Cook; Chaplain, Charles Thompson; Conductor, Frank Schultz; Warden, Charles Beeker; I. G., Joseph Bingham; O. G. Jacob Fries; R. S. S., John Bleyle; L. S. S. Edward Fletcher; P. G., William Gall.

Regular meeting night, every Monday, 8 P. M.

KENMORE REBEKAH LODGE

Early in the year of 1916, a committee was formed with Andrew Werner as chairman, assisted by Mrs. N. G. Miller, to organize a Rebekah Lodge in Kenmore with the result that, on April 4, 1916, the Lodge was instituted with 52 members, by George E. Judge, then Grand Master of New York State and District Deputy President Martha Rast of the Rebekah Assembly.

The object and purposes of the Rebekah Degree of Odd Fellows is to assist their own members and subordinate and sister Rebekah Lodges in ministering to the families of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs when in trouble, sickness and want; to aid in establishing and maintaining homes for aged Odd Fellows and their wives and the widows of deceased Odd Fellows, also homes for the care and education of orphans of deceased Odd Fellows and Rebekahs; to cultivate social and fraternal relations among lodges and families of Odd Fellows.

1926 officers are: Emma George, Noble Grand; Rose Ebling, Past Noble Grand; Emma Roehrig, Vice Grand; Julia Chase, Recording Secretary; May Gersting, Financial Secretary; Katherine Bleyle, Treasurer; Elizabeth Kumpf, Chaplain; Hattie Meyers, Warden; Jessie Whittleton, Conductor; Maud Allgier, Inside Guardian; Jacob Fries, Outside Guardian; Sarah Marshall, R. S. N. G.; Katherine Zwald, L. S. N. G.; Marie Huss, R. S. V. G.; Luella Dahmer, L. S. V. G.; Marion Bleyle, Pianist; Flora Fletcher, Color Bearer; Ethel

Cline, Minerva Morgan, Escorts; Mabel Bowman, Drill Mistress.

Past Noble Grands are: Flora Fletcher, Lulu Miller from Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin; Mabel Bowman, Mary Rowland, Christine Wiser, Maude Maxson, Jessie Caskey, Katherine Zwald, Sarah Marshall, and Rose Ebling. Present membership 160.

MASTER BUILDER LODGE NO. 911 F. & A. M.

Master Builder Lodge No. 911, Free and Accepted Masons was organized and Dispensation granted on December 27th, 1913. It was Instituted on January 20th, 1914. A Charter was granted by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York on May 7th, 1914, and the Lodge was Constituted and Consecrated on May 29th, 1914, by Honorable George Freifeld, at that time Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York.

The lodge was formed with forty-one charter members, and by the end of 1925 had grown to a membership of Three Hundred and Fifty.

Robert L. Kimberley was its first Master and served the Lodge during the years 1914 and 1915. The Masters that followed and their terms of office were: 1916, Albert C. Towne; 1917, Frederick T. Hall; 1918, Robert F. Coleman; 1919, Lewis E. Burritt; 1920, Frederick W. Claus; 1921 Fred C. Post; 1922, Francis G. King; 1923, Edward A. Jones; 1924, Walter Allen; 1925, Thomas W. Dickson.

Dr. George M. Lewis was its first secretary, followed in 1915 by Arthur P. H. Saul, who has continued as secretary until the present time, having served the lodge for thirteen consecutive years.

The officers of the lodge for the year 1926 were: Master, Willard O. Tower; Senior Warden, Dr. Joseph R. Hawn; Junior Warden, Fred M. Rich; Treasurer, Charles L. Lowell; Secretary, Arthur P. H. Saul; Chaplain, Rev. Frederick S. Parkhurst; Senior Deacon, Willis H. Hall; Junior Deacon, Frank C. Moore; Senior Master of Ceremony, Thomas B. Rautenberg; Junior Master of Ceremony, Kenneth O. Irvin; Senior Steward, Roscoe L. Rosser; Junior Steward, Frank C. Greutker; Marshal, Harry A. Epsten; Organist, Ransom C. Hall; Tiler, Marley E. Bechtel.

On February 14th, 1926, ground was broken for a new Temple, to be built on East Delaware Road, immediately north of the new Kenmore High School. The cost of the new

Temple, including the site, will be approximately \$85,000.00.

The cornerstone of the new edifice was laid with imposing ceremonies on April 10th, 1926, by William A. Rowan, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, assisted by a large retinue of Grand Lodge Officers.

It is expected that the Temple will be completed and dedicated in the late Fall of 1926.

BETHLEHEM CHAPTER 634 O. E. S.

Bethlehem Chapter 634 O. E. S. was instituted on March 9th, 1920, in Odd Fellows Temple, Kenmore, N. Y., by a staff of Acting Grand Officers. Thirty members who signed the Dispensation were affiliated. Heumina W. Lauderdale, Worthy Matron and Edwin H. Weibert Worthy Patron.

The Chapter served under Dispensation until October 23, 1920, when it was constituted by the M. W. G. M. of the State of New York, Dr. Frances Thornton.

At the end of this year the Roster totaled ninety members and W. M. Heumina W. Lauderdale and Edwin H. Weibert were re-elected for another year.

Helen P. Annis was W. M. and Thomas W. Dickson, W. P. in 1922. During this year the Chapter held its only and very successful Bazaar.

Vera K. Towne W. M., and Malcolm E. Welch W. P. in 1923; Mae L. Ewers W. M., and Edward A. Jones W. P. in 1924; Arnes L. Osborn W. M. and Walter Allen W. P. in 1925.

In 1924 and 1925 Chapter added a Vested Choir to its floor work.

December 1925 showed the chapter had initiated and affiliated 265 members but had lost twenty through death withdrawal and dimiting to other Chapters.

Each year the Chapter has had some very beautiful special evenings, such as Installations, Floral Degrees and Grand Officers Night which will never be forgotten by anyone whose privilege it has been to be present.

The Chapter has also been very successful financially in a number of undertakings into which they have gone for that purpose.

KENMORE COURT NO. 113, ORDER OF THE AMARANTH

Kenmore Court No. 113 Order of the Amaranth was organized October 23, 1924, with Mrs. Emile Linklater as its Royal Matron, and Judge Charles L. Titus as its Royal Patron.

The Grand Court granted the Charter in May 1925, after the officers had proven that they were capable of carrying on the duties and responsibilities of a Court of the Order of the Amaranth.

The membership of Kenmore number between 60 and 70, all residents of Kenmore proper, or its immediate vicinity. Membership in the Order of the Amaranth is conditional upon the applicant being a member of the Order of the Eastern Star in good standing or a Master Mason.

Charity is a capstone of the Order, through which a great deal of good can be accomplished when exercised for the good of humanity. The Order aims to impress upon all who unite with it, the duty we owe to one another, to encourage them to be a means of doing good, to live contentedly with their fellow-beings, to possess a forgiving spirit, and to exercise their influence for good over their associates.

The Grand Court of the State of New York has seen fit to appoint Mrs. Emile Linklater District Deputy Grand Royal Matron of this district for the ensuing year.

The Present Officers of Kenmore Court are as follows:

Royal Matron, Mayme B. Titus; Patron, Edward A. Jones; Associate Matron, Lillian McKenneth; Associate Patron, Charles Weidrich; Secretary, Nettie Brown; Treasurer, John F. McKenneth; Conductress, Mary Brown; Associate Conductress, Edith Wiedrich.

KENMORE BRANCH Y. W. C. A.

The Kenmore Y. W. C. A.—originally called the Industrial Service Center of Kenmore, came into existence August 29, 1918. Mrs. James Foster of Colonial Circle was the first chairman. Serving with her were Mrs. Darwin D. Martin, chairman of the House and Equipment, Mrs. E. J. Barcalo, chairman of the Industrial Committee, Mrs. William Pennypacker, chairman of Activities, Mrs. Paul Dold, Cafeteria chairman. Miss Carolyn Grimmell was the first executive of the branch. Mrs. Helen G. Wagoner assumed the duties of House Mother and Miss Ruth Fairbairn the duties of Business Secretary. To the above group belongs a tribute for all the difficult work of seeing an organization begun.

The first club night, for employed people was held February 3, 1919 with 85 girls present. Following close on this, the Mothers of the community asked for clubs for the school girls and clubs were formed under Miss Rhoda Harris.

From these beginnings the work has progressed until in

1925 over 100,000 people were served in some way by the Kenmore Y. W. C. A. While the organization was started by Buffalo people, the Kenmore women soon became interested and today the Committee of Management is mostly made up of Kenmore women.

At present the officers are: Chairman of the Branch, Mrs. F. C. Densberger; Vice Chairman, Mrs. E. R. Griffiths; Secretary, Mrs. Oliver MacLean; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Clarence Miller.

As the work has grown, additional people have been added to the staff as follows: Executive, Lucia P. Davenport; Business Girls Secretary, Blanche Knowles; Industrial Girls Secretary, Lillian Freund; Girl Reserve Secretary, Olive Degan; Cafeteria Secretary, Hazel Kidder; House Secretary, (Mrs.) Jennie E. Rader; Office Secretary, Lillian K. Buckley.

KENMORE MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION, INC.

On April 23rd, 1923 nineteen business men of Kenmore met at Neustadter's dry goods store and organized under the name of the "Kenmore Retail Merchants Association." Its aims and objects were to protect and advance the business and civic interests of the village of Kenmore, foster a spirit of commercial harmony and establish a bureau of credit information for the benefit of its members. Henry J. Ebling was unanimously chosen for President; Robert K. House, Vice President; Vern F. Palmer, Treasurer; Katherine B. Pinch, Secretary. Directors: Ray E. Clark, George J. Schlehr, C. R. Schickluna, John H. Durkin and Harrison H. Bury. Since organization the association has increased its membership to ninety members. It has aided by united effort all public enterprises of merit. A contest was held in 1925 for the purpose of adopting a slogan to be used on stationery and advertising matter. The first prize was won by Henry A. Engel, 277 Parkwood Avenue who submitted, "Kenmore's Made of Kenmore's Trade," which was adopted by the association. Other slogans were submitted as follows: "Buy More, Boost More, Kenmore," by Arthur S. Hood, 127 Wardman Road and "Trade in Kenmore," by John Blankheit, 183 Tremaine Avenue. The organization incorporated in February, 1926 under the name of the Kenmore Merchants Association. F. F. Barber was chosen as President for 1926. The regular meeting of the association is held on the third Monday evening of each month.

ROTARY CLUB OF KENMORE, NEW YORK

“Service Above Self—He Profits Most Who Serves Best”

Charter granted by Rotary International was No. 1701, organized on March 31, 1924, by George C. Diehl, special representative of Andy Wallace of St. Catharines, Ontario, District Governor of the 27th District of Rotary International.

Officers: President, Frank C. Moore; Vice President, Edward A. Jones; Secretary, Benjamin A. Keeney; Treasurer, Edward H. Boehringer; Sergeant-at-Arms, Vernon Eager.

Directors: Frank C. Moore, Vernon Eager, J. Fred Moore, Benjamin A. Keeney, Frank C. Densberger, Edward H. Boehringer, Edward A. Jones, Henry J. Ebling, Elmer L. Sleeper.

Charter Members: Frank C. Moore, Elmer L. Sleeper, Benjamin A. Keeney, Edward H. Boehringer, Edward A. Jones, Joseph B. Mang, Harrison H. Bury, James J. Donovan, Henry J. Ebling, A. L. Brainard, Robert Zimmerman, Vernon Eager, L. P. A. Eberhardt, Frank C. Densberger, J. Fred Moore, Eugene R. Linklater, Robert K. House, Ray E. Clark, William Harper, Louis Neustadter, John Richelsen, George J. Schlehr, Willis H. Hall.

Officers and Directors for the year 1925—1926: President, Dr. Clayton C. Morehouse; Vice President, Edwin R. Ashbery; Secretary, William Harper; Treasurer, Edward H. Boehringer; Sergeant-at-Arms, William F. Beier. Directors: Benjamin A. Keeney, Arthur P. H. Saul, Floyd Barber, Henry J. Ebling, Vernon Eager.

Meets every Monday at 12:15 P. M. at the Kenmore Y. W. C. A.

The Rotary Code of Ethics

My business standards shall have in them a note of sympathy for our common humanity. My business dealings, ambitions and relations shall always cause me to take into consideration my highest duties as a member of society. In every position in business life, in every responsibility that comes before me, my chief thought shall be to fill that responsibility and discharge that duty so that, when I have ended both of them, I shall have lifted the level of human ideals and achievements a little higher than I found it.

THE PROPERTY OWNERS PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION OF KENMORE, N. Y.

Meets First and Third Thursday night each month, Odd

Fellows Temple; organized December 7th, 1921.

First Officers: Harold V. Cook, President; Eugene F. Stoddard, Vice President; Floyd J. Hurlburt, Secretary; Joseph M. Ward, Treasurer.

Purpose: The purpose of the association is to promote the common welfare, through social and business intercourse among its members, and to do all manner of things which are lawful and proper.

Present Officers: Willis H. Elliott, President; W. H. Finch, Vice President; Henry F. Trout, Treasurer; Stewart W. Jordan, Secretary; Chester W. Yount, Assistant Secretary.

ZONTA CLUB OF KENMORE

On December 2nd, 1925, a group of fifteen women met with Mrs. George M. Oppermann at her home No. 2851 Delaware Avenue to consider the organization of a Zonta Club. Marion DeForest, past president of the confederation of Zonta Clubs, and Louise Gerry, president of the Buffalo Zonta Club were present and gave valuable assistance.

The Zonta Club of Kenmore was organized and received its charter on February 1st, 1926. The following officers were elected: Katherine Busch, President; Mary Connolly, First Vice President; Mabel Moore, Second Vice President; J. Aurelia Oppermann, Secretary; Mavis Todd, Treasurer. There were fifteen charter members. As a worthy aim and incentive to the club it assumed the work of assisting a young woman through college. Meetings are held monthly in the Y. W. C. A.

The board of directors is composed of the following women: Katherine Busch, Mary Connolly, Mavis Todd, Mabel Moore, Violet Osborne, Hettie Brosart, Lucia Davenport, J. Aurelia Oppermann.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

The Kenmore Branch of the Erie County League of Women Voters was organized in May 1925. Its initial membership consisted of fifty-five women. Mrs. Harold V. Cook was its first chairman. The officers for 1926 are: Mrs. Bruce Silverthorne, Chairman; Mrs. Carlisle Cherry, Assistant Chairman; Mrs. Matthew W. Hauser, Secretary; Mrs. Sidney C. Murray, Treasurer.

The membership of the League is now one hundred and fifty-nine. Its meetings are held once in each month and are open to the public. At these meetings questions of civic importance are debated.

The purpose of the organization is to teach women to vote

intelligently and to use their own observations and judgment in their right of franchisement. The organization is non-partisan and both sides of every question debated are heard.

WHEEL CHAIR HOME FOR INCURABLES, 2746 DELAWARE AVENUE, KENMORE, N. Y.

Mrs. Margaret G. Tuttle, Superintendent.

Object: To establish and maintain a home for incurables and chronic invalids and to provide wheel chairs for invalids among the worthy poor.

History: (1) Organized Wheel Chair Guild, May 1, 1910, for purpose of loaning Wheel Chairs to invalids and shut-ins among the poor of Buffalo.

(2) Opened our first Home for Chronic Invalids September 1, 1911, at 93 Seventh Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

(3) Moved to 344 Hudson Street, May 1, 1912.

(4) In June 1913, changed name Wheel Chair Guild to Wheel Chair Home for Incurables.

(5) Incorporated March, 1915.

(6) Moved into its own building, corner Delaware and Kenmore Avenues May 1, 1916.

(7) Moved into new addition to same building July 15, 1923.

(8) Incurables and Chronic invalids cared for.

(9) No salaried officers.

Originally it was an organization with active members paying three dollars annually and associate members one dollar a year for dues. Donations from public-spirited citizens, sales, bazaars, parties, etc., given by the women to raise funds, and whatever sum the incoming patients could contribute toward their support, maintained the Home until it joined the Joint Charities in 1919, from which it now receives most of its operating expenses.

Success has attended this enterprise from the first. Twelve years ago last September was the humble beginning. Soon an eleven room house on Hudson Street was taken. In May 1916, it moved into its present quarters, to which a large addition was just completed last summer. It can now accommodate forty-five patients and has a waiting list all of the time.

**THE AMERICAN LEGION, MILTON J. BROUNSHIDLE
POST NO. 205**

The American Legion was born in Paris, March, 1919, as



Monument to General Sheridan on Sheridan Drive
as it will look when completed.

the result of the spontaneous demand of all veterans for some expression in peace of those ideals for which they fought in the World War.

The boys who represented the Town of Tonawanda and Village of Kenmore, started to realize this ideal in June, receiving their temporary charter in August. Forty signed the application and received the designation of Post No. 205.

Its name honors Milton J. Brounshidle, who was killed in action during the "Argonne Drive."

Post meetings were held for a number of years in the Village Hall until 1923, when the Odd Fellow's hall was secured for combined use of the Post and its newly-formed Auxiliary Unit, composed of the mothers, wives, widows and sisters of Legion members. The Post is now so large that these quarters are too small, and some means must be found to house its activities properly.

The Post has had a representative on the Executive Committee of the Erie County Committee ever since that body was formed in 1920. It also elected a member of the Post as Vice-Commander, who later became Commander of the County.

Officers: Leonard G. Sipperley, Commander; Miner Wildey, First Vice-Commander; Frank McCadden, Second Vice-Commander; Karl Franklin, Third Vice-Commander; Irwin Brounshidle, Finance Officer; Richard Holbrook, Adjutant; Charles MacDonald, Sergeant-at-Arms; Frank C. Moore, Post Attorney; Henry A. Brown, Post Historian; Richard Holbrook, Robert House, Delegates; William Burlingame, Lewis Blackley, Alternates.

Executive Committee: Robert K. House, Earl Butler, Henry A. Brown, Lewis E. Blackley, William T. Burlingame, Fred S. Mathewson, Adelbert Dove.

LADIES' AUXILIARY

Officers: Mrs. W. H. Round, President; Mrs. L. E. Faux, First Vice-President; Mrs. O. C. Keener, Second Vice-President; Mrs. George Diebold, Secretary; Mrs. Thomas Prior, Treasurer; Mrs. Arthur Burke, Sergeant-at-Arms; Mrs. John Hawk, Chaplain; Mrs. Edward Courtney, Historian.

Executive Committee: Mrs. Henry Brown, Mrs. Clarence Yochum, Mrs. Roy McQuillan.

Delegates to County Committee: Mrs. Round, Mrs. Faux, Mrs. Diebold, Mrs. Burlingame.

HISTORY OF THE KENMORE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The organization of the Kenmore Fire Department was first proposed by the Business Men's Association of Kenmore in the spring of 1893. The little village of a few houses having laid some water pipes, and desiring to be independent of Buffalo, called a meeting in the Sunday school room of the Presbyterian Church, on May 19th, at which the fire department was organized. Myron A. Phelps was elected president; James R. Barker, Vice-President; Edward H. Moffett, Secretary; George H. Meyer, George A. Besch, D. A. Phelps Trustees. The first chief was Frank C. Stillwell and George F. Striker, assistant. All the able bodied men of the village joined the department, one of the attractions being that members were not required to pay the poll tax.

DELAWARE HOSE COMPANY

In July, 1893, the Delaware Hose Company was organized by the men of the south Kenmore-Buffalo section. Freelon Hunter was chosen first president. The men of the north end of the village formed the Alert Hose Company with John I. Keller as president. In 1905 the old companies being kept up with difficulty and a truck being needed, a Hook and Ladder company with men from both hose companies was organized and later a Chemical Company was formed. In 1919 motor apparatus took the place of old hand carts. The Chemical Company disbanded and the Delaware Hose Company, and the "Hooks" were merged into the Delaware Hook and Ladder Company. The flag pole on the village green was raised by the department in 1915. In 1919 Ross McIntosh, a Kenmore fireman, designed the kiosk containing the old fire bell which was dedicated on November 16th, 1919. The department is now well organized and effective; fully equipped with modern apparatus and with ample water supply is able to fight any fire that may occur. The department also keeps alive the community spirit in a serviceable way. The department was the host for the annual convention of the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association in July, 1926, which brought forty companies and four hundred delegates.

KENMORE FIRE DEPARTMENT COUNCIL AND WARDENS

Alert Hose Company: Walter Ducker, Henry Schunk, Roscoe L. Rosser, Louis E. DeCourlander.

Delaware Hook and Ladder Company: Frank V. Schultz, Bruce F. Miller, Charles Weiss.

Ladies Auxiliary: President, Mrs. F. V. Schultz; Vice-President, Mrs. Charles Weiss; Secretary, Mrs. G. Kirtland; Treasurer, Mrs. F. W. Spear.

Alert Hose Company: President, Raymond Kirsch; Vice-President, George Engel; Recording Secretary, Stewart Jordan; Treasurer, Henry Schunk; Financial Secretary, Irwin Brounshidle; Foreman, John Yochum; Assistant Foreman, John Kelley; Chaplain, Dr. L. E. DeCourlander; Historian, F. D. Luke.

Delaware Hook and Ladder Company: President, Charles Weiss; Vice-President, Norbert M. Beiter; Secretary, Ray Schurr; Treasurer, F. V. Schultz; Financial Secretary, William Gall; Chief, Edward W. Huebner; First Assistant, Fred W. Spear; Second Assistant, Ray Kirschner; Foreman, A. J. Burke; Assistant Foreman, R. F. Wunsch.

Kenmore Fire Police: Robert K. House, William T. Burlingame, Oscar C. Keener, Ray Grant, Leonard G. Sipperley, Richard R. Holbrook.

Roster of Chiefs since department was formed: Frank C. Stillwell, George Pirson, William Schmidt, Edward Schmidt, James Begley, George Brennan, Henry Schunk, George Besch, Charles Large, Henry J. Ebling, Milton J. Brounshidle, Louis A. Wiser, Clarence Yochum, John C. Hider, Pierre De-Lafranier, Edmund Baloun, Victor F. Moreland, Michael Forster, Frank V. Schultz.

INVENTORY OF RECORDS, VILLAGE HALL VAULT

1. Village Board Minutes, August 3rd, 1889 to 1926. 2. Assessment Rolls, 1900 to 1926. 3. Building Permits, January 1st, 1907 to 1926. 4. Correspondence, August 3rd, 1889 to 1926. 5. Erroneous Tax Petitions. 6. Real Property Searches, Deeds, Actions. 7. Attorney's Opinions and Reports of Officers. 8. Approved Building Petitions. 9. Audited Vouchers. 10. Contracts. 11. Agreements. 12. Deeds. 13. Proposals. 14. Specifications. 15. Legal Actions. 16. Plumbers Bonds. 17. Bonds of Officials. 18. Insurance Policies. 19. Returned Mail. 20. Contracts. 21. Argements and Options. 22. Deeds and Searches. 23. Certificates of Nomination. 24. Petitions. 25. Oaths of Office. 26. Election Expenses. 27. Canvass of Elections. 28. Improvements. 29. Bond Proceedings. 30. Compensation Reports. 31. Board of Assessors. 32.

Regular and Special Elections. 33. Superintendent's Weekly Reports. 34. Long and Short Vouchers. 35. Blue Prints. 36. Maps and Surveys.

KENMORE REAL ESTATE

L. P. A. Eberhardt

Probably next to location, as to approach from Buffalo and strategic position on the Niagara Frontier, the real estate companies played the next important part in advancing the development of Kenmore.

The pioneer in this line was L. P. A. Eberhardt, fondly known as "Daddy" Eberhardt of Kenmore. Mr. Eberhardt started in business in 1884 sub-dividing the Leonard Farm of forty acres which tract is now Hinman and Ramsdell Avenues on the Buffalo side of the line. In 1896 he had associated with him Philip Walters and developed the Villa Avenue section. Later on the Ruff Farm of forty-five acres in the Elmwood Avenue section, including Hoover and Keller Avenues, was developed. Eberhardt & Sanborn were associated in 1892-1896 and developed the Isadore Mang and Fred Mang tract on the south-west corner of Delaware and Kenmore Avenues and the Ackerman Farm of seventy-four acres on the south-east corner of Delaware and Kenmore Avenues. In all Mr. Eberhardt improved eighty-four different tracts of land and is the oldest and largest dealer of real estate in Kenmore and is still actively engaged in the business. Much time, hard work, and money was spent in the early days to make Kenmore presentable and habitable. The real estate men were eager to improve the looks of the new village. There were many unsightly barns and sheds to be removed and unsanitary ditches to be drained. Objections were raised by the owners of barns at having these old landmarks torn down. One such building located near the Lackawanna Railway was in the way of progress. All pleas to remove it fell on deaf ears, but at last Providence (?) came to the aid of the real estate men—the barn burned down. Ugly and offensive ditches were drained by the forward looking men. Dead and straggley trees were cut down and the landscape beautified. In this task all the new settlers took part, being anxious to make Kenmore attractive.

Jacob B. Rickert

Jacob B. Rickert was born at Manheim, Waterloo County, Ontario, Canada. He came to the United States in 1890 and

located in the newly settled village of Kenmore. He helped to construct the brown stone houses of L. P. A. Eberhardt, and Fred B. Eberhardt in Delaware Avenue in 1893-1894. Later he engaged in general contracting business building homes for the early settlers in Kenmore. Mrs. Hannah E. Rickert, his wife, became a resident in Kenmore in 1891 and resides at 27 LaSalle Avenue, being one of the few remaining pioneers who have witnessed the wonderful growth of the village. Mr. Rickert continued in the building business until 1914 and claimed the distinction of building four out of every five houses in Kenmore up to that time. In 1914 he formed the Hall-Rickert Co., Inc., with Mr. S. C. Hall and carried on home building on a large scale in the Hertel Avenue section of Buffalo, until the time of his death which occurred February 12, 1916. Like all the original settlers in Kenmore, Mr. Rickert was interested in everything that helped to make Kenmore an ideal community. He was one of the organizers of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Kenmore.

Clare L. Rickert, 2959 Delaware Avenue

Clare L. Rickert, son of Jacob B. Rickert, worked as a carpenter for the Hall-Rickert Co., Inc., and took over the construction work of the company at the death of his father until the fall of 1916 at which time he went into business for himself, building and selling homes exclusively in Kenmore. In 1917 he combined with Eugene F. Stoddard, forming what was known as the Stoddard-Rickert Co., and built houses in Linden Avenue until entering the U. S. Service in the World War November 21st, 1917. He served eighteen months. After returning from the war Mr. Rickert sold his interest in the company to Stoddard and Quin, Frederick J. Quin having become a member of the firm of Stoddard-Rickert Co. In July 1919 Mr. Rickert formed the Rickert Building Co., Inc., with Charles W. Hall. In 1921 he bought out Mr. Hall's interest and formed the Rickert Building Co., Inc., 2959 Delaware Avenue, where he carries on a general business of building, real estate, and insurance. Like his father Mr. Rickert believes in the future of Kenmore and is placing all his investments in and near the village and shows a lively interest in everything that relates to the development of the coming city of 25,000 population which he believes will be the Kenmore of 1936.

Myron A. Phelps

Mr. M. A. Phelps, the first President of the Village of Ken-

more, was one of the first to engage in real estate dealing in Kenmore, also to superintend the erection of houses. Under the title of "The Kenmore and Villa Avenue Land Company," and "Messrs. Phelps & Barrus," and as general agent for the "Kenmore and Delaware Avenue Land Company," Mr. Phelps not only sold land and houses, but labored with heart and hand to establish and build up the new suburb of Buffalo. He was respected and honored throughout the county and state. His work and influence for the good of the community still abides.

Large & Hider, National Bank Building, Delaware and Lincoln

Charles Large, under the firm name of Large & Company (Charles Large and William Rowland) was among the first in contracting and building in Kenmore on an extensive scale. Among the residences built by this firm are the E. B. Olmstead of Eugene Avenue, in old colonial style; the substantial George V. Eberhardt house 2768 Delaware Avenue, now occupied by Henry A. Brown; the handsome brick residence of Willis H. Hall, 84 Tremaine Avenue, also the fine homes of Harold V. Cook, 57 East Girard Boulevard, Richard W. Werner, 94 Delaware Road and many others including several in Deerhurst Park. Among the public buildings and mercantile blocks built by this firm are the Washington Grammar School (1910) which was the original High School. The Odd Fellows Temple (1914), the Ebling Hardware block, and the rectory of Saint Paul's Church.

Under the firm name of Large & Hider (Charles Large and John C. Hider) the Y. W. C. A. Cafeteria was built in 1918. More recently some of the notable public buildings erected are the Presbyterian Church, the National Bank, the Masonic Temple, and the Rosing block, Delaware and Euclid, (1926) which important site was occupied for many years by some of the landmarks of early Kenmore.

Rowland Corporation, 23 East Hazeltine Avenue

This firm of general contractors and masonry work is among the oldest and leading builders in Kenmore. William Rowland was formerly associated with Charles Large, as Large & Company and until 1918 shared in the operations of that firm. Since that date the corporation built the State Bank of Kenmore, the Kenmore Theatre Block, and the Szur Shoe Shop No. 9 Mang Avenue. The corporation has built twenty-five substantial houses in different parts of the village.

Kinsey Realty Company

A branch office of this company is located at 2830

Delaware Avenue. Mr. Kinsey Sr. co-operated with L. P. A. Eberhardt in the realty business in Kenmore's earliest history. The present company operated in Kenmore on February 7th, 1907. Kinsey Avenue was the first street developed from Elmwood to Delaware Avenue. The Kenmore Estates development included Somerton Avenue, West Girard Boulevard, North End, Palmer, and Stillwell Avenues. The company has built 150 houses in the village including many on West Hazeltine and Tremaine Avenues. In the town of Tonawanda subdivisions include Colvin Avenue, Sheridan Drive and Eggertsville Road.

Louis J. Eisenberger

Louis J. Eisenberger, building contractor, 58 Tremaine Avenue, began building in Kenmore in March, 1914, finishing four houses in Knowlton Avenue. In 1915 he moved into the village and since that time has built 160 houses in various parts of the village. He finished the interior wood work in both the State Bank of Kenmore and the First National Bank.

Boehringer Homes, Edward H. Boehringer and Clarence C. Boehringer, No. 2955 Delaware Avenue

In March 1922 under the firm name of Hall & Boehringer, a number of houses were built on Mang Avenue and twenty houses on Lincoln Boulevard. At this time the office was located the farthest north of any of the real estate and building offices, leading the way in development on Delaware Avenue. The present company since 1923 has built forty or more homes on both sides of Hazeltine and Tremaine Avenues, in the Elmwood Avenue section which is rapidly expanding as a business and residential district.

Ebert & Ebert No. 44 Columbia Road

This company commenced building operations in Kenmore in 1922 and has made a remarkable record in the erection of fine residences. Twenty-five houses on Columbia Road; fourteen on Lincoln Boulevard; fifteen on Mang Avenue; two on Victoria Boulevard and others in the north Delaware section. All these high class homes found ready sale as soon as or before completed.

F. S. Sipperley & Son No. 2827 Delaware Avenue

Under this firm name Mr. Sipperley, one of the older and well known residents, began selling real estate and insurance in April, 1922. Many lots were sold for the Kenmore-Hoover Land Co., and the Kenmore Woodward Co., which helped to

improve the large tract west of Elmwood Avenue. This firm is also sub-dividing sixty-nine acres in the Colvin Avenue, Ellicott Road section, which is rapidly being taken up as a residential section. The new Colvin Avenue subway makes easy access from Buffalo, and Kenmore and parallels Delaware Avenue and Main Street in the trend to the east and north.

Tolsma Brothers Real Estate, No. 2938 Delaware Avenue

This company began business in Kenmore in August, 1922. Many sites for modern homes were sold on Westgate Avenue, which had such a remarkable development in 1925. Many home sites were sold on Wardman Road, Hamilton Boulevard, Delwood and Kenwood Roads. The company is now operating on Sheridan Drive and in various parts of the village and township of Tonawanda.

Chambers Realty Company, No. 2980 Delaware Avenue

This company's branch office was opened in Kenmore in 1924. Besides building several modern homes in Nassau Avenue and other parts of the village and offering business opportunities in Kenmore, the company is developing Park View in the township of Tonawanda facing the new town park—Sheridan Park—located on Sheridan Drive and the Two Mile Creek Road. This section is easy of access and is bound to become a popular suburban residential district famous already for its beauty.

G. F. Wallace Co., Inc., No. 2854 Delaware Avenue

This firm is developing the Delaware Meadows tract on Schell Road east of Delaware Avenue, which runs to Eggerts-ville Road. It also has subdivisions in Sheridan Meadows and Sheridan Drive. This famous drive extends across the township of Tonawanda from east to west connecting the Niagara Falls Boulevard with the Niagara River. A wonderful boulevard, electrically lighted, traversing a beautiful stretch of country very attractive to home finders. The company began business in Kenmore in 1924 and has sold hundreds of homesites.

Hall & Turner, No. 2943 Delaware Avenue

Charles W. Hall was associated with Clare L. Rickert previous to forming a partnership with Leslie F. Turner, May 1st, 1925. The firm built up the north side of Lincoln Avenue between Delaware and Eugene Avenues, and on the south side between Eugene and Elmwood Avenues. Four residences on

Victoria Boulevard and twenty homes on Mayville Avenue, north of the village line and in the Elmwood Avenue section have been built.

Greater Buffalo Building Company

Among the newest homes in Kenmore are those of the Greater Buffalo Building Company which is building 150 houses on Westgate Road and Wabash Avenue between Elmwood and Wilbur Avenues, which district is rapidly filling up. These are all of high standards and materials with all conveniences and comforts. Some are of the Dutch Colonial type built of brick. Office, Elmwood and Wabash Avenues.

Deerhurst Park, E. W. Rogers, 357 Delaware Road.

Just outside the village limits on the north, and on the east side of old Delaware Road is situated a purely residential section where street traffic cannot disturb the residents. Here only a short time ago stood an old landmark, the Atkinson farm house and barns, which gave a quaint and rural aspect to the locality. Now there are new driveways, shrubbery, ornamental stone fences, unique designed homes set in open spaces making one think of English rural districts. In a few years this will be one of the beauty spots of Kenmore. Laid out in the spring of 1924 there are already about twenty residences and others being built.

Henel Brothers, Englewood Avenue

This company began building operations in 1920 and up to this time has built seventy-five houses in various parts of the village. Many of these are in Westgate Avenue between Delaware and Eugene Avenues. The Henel Brothers have been long time residents of the town of Tonawanda and are also milk dealers.

Murray Inc., Home Finders, 2860 Delaware Avenue

Frank I. Murray, president of the company came to Kenmore in 1915 as a resident, and opened an office at the corner of Parkside and Hertel Avenues, Buffalo. From that office he helped to develop North Park, Colvin Park, and Park Gardens, also selling a good many homes in Kenmore. The title "Home Finder" was well earned and not an empty ostentation. On October 1st, 1924, the offices of the company were moved to 2860 Delaware Avenue, Kenmore, from which location Mr. Murray has had a large part in developing Lincoln, Victoria and Courier Boulevards. Besides real estate the company does a general brokerage and insurance business in all its branches.

Other contractors and builders are: Clark & Landers,

Clarence Kibby, Charles W. Hughes, Thomas H. & Arthur R. Blair, Edward Bernd, Benjamin A. Keeney, Fred S. Matthewson, DeVer W. Northrup, Charles G. Ott, Henry C. Premus, Stoddard & Quin, George Voas, Fred Lowitzer, and many others listed in the Kenmore Official Directory.

Building in the village of Kenmore is showing great activity. There are restricted sections where private homes are selling within the reach of the average working man. Kenmore is a small city of home owners.

TONAWANDA TOWN BOARD, MEETINGS, TUESDAY, 8 P. M., VILLAGE HALL

Matthew D. Young, Supervisor; Roscoe L. Rosser, Town Clerk; Carlisle Cherry, Edward A. Jones, Robert Zimmerman, Samuel Seitz, Justices of the Peace; Henry DeWitt, Highway Superintendent.

Elmer Mang, Chief of Police; Fred T. Hall, Building and Plumbing Superintendent; Alfred Evans, Public Works Superintendent; Charles L. Lowell, Tax Receiver; Frank C. Moore, Attorney; George C. Diehl, Engineer.

TOWNSHIP OF TONAWANDA

Erie County was erected by an act of legislation on the 2nd day of April 1821, comprising all the territory of the old county (Niagara) lying south of the middle of Tonawanda Creek. The Town of Tonawanda was set off from the town of Buffalo on the 16th day of April 1836, and included the present township and Grand Island. Grand Island was formed into a separate town by the board of supervisors of Erie County in October, 1852. The town of Tonawanda contains about twenty-two square miles in Township 12, Range 8, Holland Land Company's survey.

The first town meeting was held in the spring of 1837, when the following officers were elected: William Williams, Supervisor; T. W. Williams, Town Clerk; John T. Bush, Daniel Smith and Mr. Forsdyck, Justices of the Peace; James Carney and Jeremiah Phalin, Assessors; William Best and John Simson, Commissioners of Highways.

J. B. Zimmerman a leading citizen of Kenmore was the supervisor from 1888 to 1894. He died May 18th, 1894.

Among the prominent and active residents of the town from 1836 and later were David R. Failing, Frederick Landel, Frederick Pfanner, Philip Pirson, Levi Zimmerman, J. B. Zimmerman, Martin J. Zimmerman and others whose descend-

ants are still active and reside in the township.

Conspicuous among the farms sub-divided for building purposes in the township is the Zimmerman property on Delaware Road in location unsurpassed. The Zimmerman family have been prominently associated with affairs both in the township and village of Kenmore for more than a hundred years. A deed dated June 18th, 1813, was displayed in a Kenmore real estate office in the spring of 1926 attesting this fact and excited much curiosity. The following article from a recent issue of the Buffalo Courier gives an account of this property.

The property which comprises 110 acres was conveyed to Adam Zimmerman on June 18, 1813, and recorded in the office of the clerk of Niagara county, of which Erie county was then a part, in 1813. The property was deeded by Wilhelm Willink, Hendrick Vollenhoven, Rutger Jan Schimmelpenninck, Wilhelm Willink, the younger; Jan Willink, the younger; Jan Gabriel Vanslaphorst, Cornelis Vollenhoven, Hendrick Seye, all of the city of Amsterdam, in the republic of Batavia, Holland, through their attorney, Joseph Ellicott of Buffalo, whose signature was witnessed by David Goodwin and James W. Stevens.

The Zimmermans came to Buffalo from the Mohawk valley by ox cart in 1794, about 150 years after the original Zimmermans immigrated from Holland. About the time the Zimmermans arrived in western New York the Holland Land Company purchased from the Indians their rights pursuant to a treaty which was made with representatives of the United States government.

Adam Zimmerman, to whom the property known today as Kinsey's Delaware Terrace East was deeded, was a man of considerable note and had quite a reputation for keeping the Indians straight. He became familiar with their language and oftentimes acted as interpreter for the Seneca nation of Indians.

By the terms of Adam Zimmerman's will the property was left to his son, William A. Zimmerman, who was survived by the following children: Robert M. Zimmerman and Margaret Zimmerman, who hold title to the property today; and the late Hamilton, Oliver and Ida M. Zimmerman.

The first gas wells on the property were drilled by Oliver Zimmerman about ten years ago, and today natural gas wells

on this property supply many of the factories and homes in the town of Tonawanda.

Just a few years previous to the time Kinsey's Delaware Terrace was deeded to Adam Zimmerman a sale was made by taking some of the soil and handing it to the purchaser. If the soil was accepted by the purchaser, the sale was completed. Another form was to pick up a twig from the ground. The seller would take hold of one end and the purchaser would take hold of the other, break the twig and create a contract of sale.

As time drew on, evidence of ownership was reduced to writing and the heading on all deeds read "This Indenture." The deed was torn or cut apart in a zigzag manner and one part given to the purchaser while the other was retained by the seller. In case of a dispute, ownership was proven by matching the two pieces.

The Adam Zimmerman deed was one of the first legal papers to be recorded in the county clerk's office. The description reads:

"All That Certain Tract of Land, situate, lying and being in the County of Niagara in the State of New York, Being part or parcel of a certain township which on a map or survey or divers tracts or townships of land of the said parties of the first part, made for the proprietors by Joseph Ellicott, Surveyor, is distinguished by Township Number Twelve in the Eighth Range of said Townships and which said tract of land on a certain other map or survey of said Townships into lots, made for the said proprietors, by the said Joseph Ellicott, is distinguished by part of the Lot Number thirty-four in said Township. Bounded east by part of Lot No. twenty-nine, thirteen chains, seventy-six links, south by Land conveyed to Peter Zimmerman by Deed of this date, seventy-nine chains, twenty-one links, southwesterly by a road one chain, fifty links wide, thirteen chains, eighty-one links, and north by a line parallel with the north bounds of said land conveyed to Peter Zimmerman, eighty chains, seventy-one links, containing 110 acres, be the same more or less according to the plan laid down in the margin hereof."

The township of Tonawanda situate between the southerly boundary of the city of Tonawanda and the northerly boundary of the city of Buffalo, (out of which the village of Kenmore has been taken) is one of the richest townships of its

size in the state. The large and prosperous industrial plants along the Niagara river and Military Road account largely for this fact. During the last fifteen or twenty years the old farms have been sub-divided into building lots and are rapidly becoming beautiful homesites. New boulevards and avenues are built where once the cattle grazed. The beautiful spreading elm trees that once marked the line fences between the farms still grace the landscape. Through and across the town run the new driveways Elmwood Avenue, Delaware Avenue, Colvin Boulevard (the proposed Parker Boulevard to cost \$300,000, to connect Kenmore Avenue with Ellicott Creek Road) Kenmore Avenue, (which is to be widened and made a Boulevard connecting Main Street, Buffalo, with the Niagara River) Sheridan Drive, and other cross town roads make all this section accessible to the motorist, and the advantage is taken by thousands of Buffalo and Niagara Falls people. Sightseeing motor buses are to traverse all this beautiful country. The Tonawanda Town Park on Sheridan Drive and Two Mile Creek will add elegance with pleasure to the township. Town Engineer Diehl has prepared a comprehensive plan of house numbering for all the streets of the township by which householders can secure a correct house number, a very convenient and progressive step. Only a few farms remain under cultivation, and these will soon give place to town lots. With the passing of the older residents, who were the pioneers in the development of township, will also pass from recollection the names of the old farms. It will be necessary to consult the original maps to identify location and name.

The town of Tonawanda has been extremely fortunate in its choice of Supervisors from its earliest history. By close personal attention to the vital interests of the town and a progressive spirit they have kept pace with the growth of western New York during the past one hundred years and have brought the township to an enviable position in finance and modern improvement.

The list of Supervisors since the village of Kenmore was incorporated within its limits is as follows:

John K. Patton was the Supervisor of the town of Tonawanda when the village of Kenmore was incorporated in 1889, and John C. Webb, Town Clerk. Mr. Patton held the office for eight years 1892—1899 and issued the notices from his office relative to the incorporation of the village. His services

were indispensable in helping the infant municipality to stand on its feet, and take the first steps toward greatness.

James Huff was the next incumbent and served for four years 1900—1903. Mr. Huff also gave the village great aid in its early corporate life. He worked harmoniously with the village board in its relation with the town board, foreseeing that the welfare of both town and village were inseparably related.

Lauren H. Hollister held the office of Supervisor eight years 1904—1911. He saw the town growing with the village in importance during his administration, which was so satisfactory that he was chosen by his townsmen as their leader for four consecutive terms. The industrial features along the frontier began to assume proportions which gave promise of the present extent.

Dr. Robert A. Toms well known to many of the present population both of the town and village was the Supervisor for six years 1912—1917. During his three two-year terms the rapid development of the township and increasing official duties were very noticeable. Political affairs were very exciting during this period as a consequence. The exacting demands and different view points of the inhabitants made his tenure of office uncertain, but with those associated with him in the management of town affairs, progress and economy were achieved.

Arthur R. Atkinson the present County Clerk of Erie County who was inducted into that important office on January 1st, 1922, is a "native son" in every sense of the word. He was born on the old Atkinson Farm where now is situated the beautiful and growing Deerhurst Park. The old farm house was a landmark for many years and the scene of many jovial meetings enjoyed by the people of Delaware Road, before the present Delaware Avenue was built. He grew up in intimate acquaintance with the township and its people, also with the village of Kenmore and its vital affairs. He was the popular village president during 1919—1921 which office he relinquished to assume his present duties. Mr. Atkinson was the Supervisor for two terms 1918—1921 and gave such an effective and popular administration as to attract attention in the County Board of Supervisors which resulted in his nomination and election by a flattering majority as County Clerk. Mr. Atkinson is an ardent Republican and was the first official

elected by his friends and neighbors on a local Republican straight ticket in Kenmore.

J. Fred Moore was the winner in a lively campaign for the office of Supervisor in the fall of 1921 and filled the office for two terms 1922—1925. It was during his administration that the more recent and unprecedented development in the township took place. His able and conscientious service for the town, and on the County Board of Supervisors won recognition in his appointment to many important committees. The interests of both town and village always received his close personal attention and untiring effort. The State authorities gave him unstinted praise for accuracy in his accounts at the close of his administration. The bronze tablet on the pedestal of the Sheridan Monument will always associate his name with the construction of that famous driveway. On the completion of his term of office Mr. Moore with his wife took an extended trip to California, Panama Canal Zone and South America. Mr. Moore recently purchased the brick block at the corner of Delaware and Warren Avenues and remodeled it for mercantile and office purposes.

Matthew D. Young who served the village of Kenmore as its President during 1912—1919 with great acceptability was elected to the office of Supervisor of the town of Tonawanda in the fall of 1925 and assumed office on January 1st, 1926. His popularity was attested in a hard fought campaign. His business-like methods, careful and painstaking inquiry into all that relates to the welfare of the citizens is recognized by everyone. The township will receive the same watchful care in all matters affecting its growth and prosperity that characterized his village administration. The present and wonderful expansion of the town which is rapidly assuming the appearance of a continuous village from north to south, and east to west calls for intense concentration of thought, wise action, and precise financial calculation. These things Mr. Young is in every way capable of giving.

Among the industrial plants and manufacturing companies on the River Road and Military Road there are the Wickwire Spencer Steel Company; Semet Solvay Company; Acheson Graphite Company; Buffalo Electric Chemical Company; Dunlop Tire & Rubber Company; Dupont-Rayon Company; Farrel Foundry & Machine Company; Excelsior Steel Ball Company; Flexlume Corporation; Wood & Brooks Company; Fowler

Nail Company; Rice & Adams Corporation; Eastern States Manufacturing Company; Beaver Products Company; Jewett Stove Company; Lovering & Brother Company; J. H. Williams Company.

It is very probable that with the present activities on the immediate Niagara Frontier, the proposed railroad bridge across the Niagara River at Grand Island, and the settlement of the new Avenues and Boulevards already constructed the township of Tonawanda will have a population of fifty thousand people by the year 1950. This will be true in any event, whether the township remains in its present political division, becomes a part of the City of Kenmore, or becomes a part of the Greater Buffalo municipality.

SHERIDAN MONUMENT

Just east of Delaware Avenue on Sheridan Drive is a pedestal made of Woodbury, Vt., granite, erected to commemorate the construction of that already celebrated driveway. The pedestal is soon to be surmounted with an equestrian statue of General Phil Sheridan. The monument has the following dimensions in length, height, and width. Base 14 x 7-6 x 1-6; second base, 11-4 x 5-0 x 1-2; die, 10-2 x 3-8 x 4-10; cap, 12-0 x 5.4 x 1-6. On either side of the pedestal is a bronze plate bearing the following inscription:

"SHERIDAN DRIVE
Constructed for a Greater Niagara Frontier
1923—1925
Dedicated to Improved Highways Transportation
Town Board
J. F. Moore, Supervisor
Elmer W. Johnson, Town Clerk
Edward A. Jones, Justice
F. B. Eberhardt, Justice
Samuel Seitz, Justice
Robert Zimmerman, Justice
Fred Ebling, Supt. of Highways
George C. Diehl, Engineer"

